

### **General instructions regarding vaccination for parents:**

- Vaccinations are for protecting the child against life-threatening diseases.
- On-time vaccination and multiple doses of vaccines are necessary for effective protection against vaccine preventable diseases.
- Prior to immunization, inform your doctor if the child has had any significant reaction to the last dose or the child is having any immune system problem or any serious illness.
- Vaccination can be given in presence of a minor illness.
- After the vaccination, reactions are usually minor. Any reaction to any vaccine or drug is solely dependent on individual sensitivity.
- After vaccination you should wait for at least 15 minutes in premises for observation.
- If vaccination was discontinued or delayed, it should be continued from where it was stopped.
- Polio: child can be breastfed soon after giving polio drops. IPV doses are mandatory for complete protection against paralytic polio. Apart from routine polio doses the recommended 'pulse OPV dose' are mandatory during PPI campaigns.
- BCG: a nodule appears 3-4 weeks after BCG immunization. It may soften or ulcerate in next 2-4 weeks. No application or fomentation is necessary. It heals, leaving a scar, indicating effective vaccination.
- DTwP: there may be mild fever and pain, redness and swelling at the site of the injection. A small painless lump may remain for a few weeks. For fever and pain, paracetamol drops may be given, the dose can be repeated every 4-6 hourly if required. Please consult your doctor for any other reaction.
- Influenza: Flu vaccination should be done every yearly as flu viruses are constantly changing and vaccine effect may wear off over time. Many viral infections have symptoms like flu but these viruses are not protected by flu vaccination.