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Proper administration and scheduling of pediatric vaccination

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Vaccination against childhood communicable diseases through the expanded program on immunization (EPI) is one of the most cost-effective public health interventions available. Most causes of vaccine preventable illness among children are relatively uncommon due to high rates of vaccination and very effective vaccines. It has eliminated a large part of the infectious diseases that once killed millions of people. A report from the World Health Organization states that today vaccines prevent 2.5 million deaths per year. Societal benefits of increasing vaccination coverage include creation and maintenance of herd immunity against communicable diseases, prevention of disease outbreaks, and reduction in health-care--related costs. Vaccination risks range from common, minor, and local adverse effects to rare, severe, and life-threatening conditions. Thus, recommendations

for immunization practices balance scientific evidence of benefits for each person and to society against the potential costs and risks of vaccination programs. Optimal response to a vaccine depends on multiple factors, including the nature of the vaccine and the age and immune status of the recipient, individualized and age appropriate scheduling. This workshop will enable attendees to prepare vaccination schedules based on minimum intervals between doses for children whose vaccinations have been delayed. A vaccine series does not need to be restarted, regardless of the time that has elapsed between doses. Use the section appropriate for the child's age. The workshop also will be highlighting proper administration technique.

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