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[medlineplus/immunization](http://medlineplus/immunization)

[www.cispimmunize.org](http://www.cispimmunize.org)

**References:**

1. Does antigenic overload exist? The role of multiple immunizations in infants. *Immunol Allergy Clin North Am.* 2003 Nov;23(4):649-64.
2. Mercury concentrations and metabolism in infants receiving vaccines containing thiomersal: a descriptive study. *Lancet* 2002 Nov 30;360(9347):1737-41.
3. Novel de novo SHANK3 mutation in autistic patients. *Am J Med Genet B Neuropsychiatr Genet*, 2008 July 9.



**American College of  
Osteopathic Pediatricians**

2209 Dickens Road

Richmond, VA 23230-2005

(877) 231-2267 • Fax (804) 282-0090

[www.ACOPeds.org](http://www.ACOPeds.org)

**MYTHS**

**The Truth About  
Immunizations**



# Let's Get the Truth Out About Immunizations!

# MYTHS

**MYTH** Immunizations are not needed.

**FACT** Many diseases still exist in the United States and underdeveloped countries (MMR, Varicella, Pertussis, Tetanus, Hib, Pneumococcus, Rotavirus, Hepatitis B and A). The vaccines are given to boost our immune system against their potential infection.

**MYTH** Vaccines don't work.

**FACT** All vaccines create an immune response in the body. Once the immune response is created, it will protect the individual from the organism for which the vaccine was developed.

**MYTH** Too many vaccines overload the immune system.

**FACT** The immune system is a complex mechanism of protection. It is able to respond to multiple organisms. The human body comes into contact with a multitude of organisms on a daily basis. The vaccines usually given to infants will protect against a handful of these organisms. The new and vibrant immune system handles these vaccines - even multiple vaccines - without difficulty.<sup>1</sup>



**MYTH** Mercury in vaccines cause problems.

**FACT** The amount of mercury found in routine vaccinations is minimal. There are no studies that show that mercury from vaccinations accumulates in the body.<sup>2</sup>

**MYTH** Diseases that vaccines prevent are gone.

**FACT** The majority of organisms that vaccines protect against are very much still present in our environment. Without these vaccines, the organisms could infect our infants and children.

**MYTH** Vaccines cause autism.

**FACT** Several studies show that there is no association between vaccinations and the development of autism. Some studies have suggested that autism may be a genetic disorder.<sup>3</sup>

*References are listed on back panel.*