

# Working together to protect all Kansans from vaccine-preventable diseases.

The Immunize Kansas Coalition is a group of approximately 45 member organizations and 100 engaged individuals including healthcare providers, public health professionals, researchers, educators, healthcare payers, associations and nonprofits, vaccine producers, school nurses, pharmacists, parents, grandparents, and more who bring their expertise to support our mission.

Vaccines are about healthy individuals, healthy communities, and reducing the impact of vaccine-preventable disease



# **Connect with Us**

Reach out to us with questions, follow-up conversations, and to learn much more about immunizations.

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# Protecting Kansas with Immunization



What is the purpose of a vaccine for a vaccine-preventable disease?

It teaches the immune system to recognize the disease, while the immune system is rapidly learning early in its life.



Example: We don't wait until high school to teach math; learning to recognize numbers starts early in life

#### Why do we give vaccines?



To reduce preventable diseases and their harmful side effects (For example: Measles, polio, pertussis)

To protect populations who can't receive vaccinations

Why are vaccines recommended at the ages they are?

To teach the immune system at the point it is most trainable

Some pieces of training require multiple lessons (immunizations)



#### Vaccine Requirements in Kansas

When it comes to childhood immunizations, state law in Kansas requires certain immunizations for childcare and school attendance.

Scan the QR code to view the requirements



#### The Ability to "Opt-Out"

State law includes procedures to optout of immunization requirements because of religious or medical reasons.

## Protecting Kansans with Immunization Education Module

To learn more about immunizations, check out IKC's Protecting Kansans with Immunization Education Module, available in English and Spanish.









View the Module

# **Life Without Vaccines**

Without vaccines, newborns, the elderly, and those with compromised immune systems are most likely to suffer from vaccine-preventable diseases, including life-altering side effects or even death.

Without vaccines, there is a severe economic impact on a community. Parents miss work, children miss school and childcare, and vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks overwhelm our health systems. Responses can cost millions of dollars.