

Mumps vaccine

Mumps virus causes fever, headache, and swollen glands. It can lead to deafness, meningitis, painful swelling of the testicles or ovaries, and, rarely, death. For adolescents and adults, the damage to testes or ovaries can result in reduced fertility or even sterility.

This vaccine is usually given as part of the measles-mumps-rubella combined vaccine (MMR), but an individual vaccine is available. A combination of MMR and chickenpox vaccine (MMR-V) is expected to become available in the near future.

This vaccine is less likely to be effective if given before the first birthday. It is typically given at 12 to 15 months of age, and a second dose is given by age 6 years.