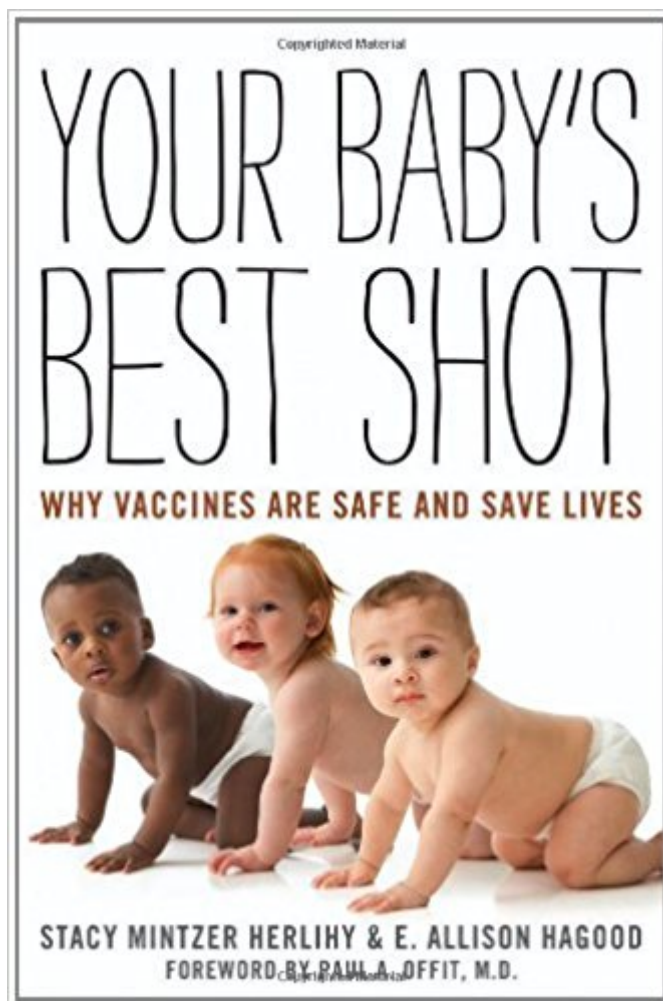


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Your Baby's Best Shot: Why Vaccines Are Safe And Save Lives



Synopsis

Parents can easily be bombarded by conflicting messages about vaccines a dozen times each week. One side argues that vaccines are a necessary public health measure that protects children against dangerous and potentially deadly diseases. The other side vociferously maintains that vaccines are nothing more than a sop to pharmaceutical companies, and that the diseases they allegedly help prevent are nothing more than minor annoyances. An ordinary parent may have no idea where to turn to find accurate information. Your Baby's Best Shot is written for the parent who does not have a background in science, research, or medicine, and who is confused and overwhelmed by the massive amount of information regarding the issue of child vaccines. New parents are worried about the decisions that they are making regarding their children's health, and this work helps them wade through the information they receive in order to help them understand that vaccinating their child is actually one of the simplest and smartest decisions that they can make. Covering such topics as vaccine ingredients, how vaccines work, what can happen when populations don't vaccinate their children, and the controversies surrounding supposed links to autism, allergies, and asthma, the authors provide an overview of the field in an easy to understand guide for parents. In an age when autism diagnoses remain on the rise, when a single infectious individual can help spark an epidemic in three countries, when doctors routinely administer an often bewildering array of shots, and when parents swear their babies were fine until their first dosage of the MMR, the authors hope this book will serve as a crucial resource to help parents understand this vitally important issue.

Book Information

File Size: 669 KB

Print Length: 225 pages

Publisher: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers; 1 edition (August 9, 2012)

Publication Date: August 9, 2012

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B008UTQS2M

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #182,260 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #21

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Medical eBooks > Specialties > Preventive Medicine #24

in Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Vaccinations #36 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks >

Medical eBooks > Physician & Patient > Healing

Customer Reviews

This is an excellent book, and not just because it is carefully researched, well written, and an interesting discussion of an important topic -- although it is all of these. This book is well worth buying and reading because it is useful. Firstly, "Your Baby's Best Shot" is a general resource on vaccines, and a valuable handbook for new parents. It packs a great deal of information into its 211 pages, with chapters on the history of vaccines, the biology of immunization, vaccine manufacture and testing. It lists descriptions of individual vaccines, particularly those given in early childhood, and of the diseases they prevent. In addition, the book is partly a response to the vaccine opposition that has arisen in recent years. That opposition is, in general, passionate and very poorly informed. It persists because the community of vaccine opponents has become closed to any information inconsistent with its worldview. Anyone who tries to learn about the risks and benefits of vaccines by going to the Internet is likely to be engulfed by a tide of conspiracy-minded anti-vaccine sites, all reinforcing one another and each trying to be scarier than the next. "Your Baby's Best Shot" book attempts to counter this by presenting accurate scientific information regarding the benefits of immunization, by directly and honestly discussing its (real, though minor) risks, by pointing out what's true and what has been misunderstood about vaccines in the news, and by giving the reader links and references to a wealth of additional information. All this will do nothing to change the minds of true believers, as a glance at the negative reviews of this book will show. But they are not the intended audience for this book. Anyone who wants to know what is objectively true about infectious disease and immunization, and who wants the information necessary to make informed health decisions for his or her family, will get a lot out of this book. That is its intended audience, and it serves those readers extremely well.

Excellent. In an age of pseudo scientific misinformation and alarmist drivel, it's good to read something that relies on the actual evidence rather than ghost stories and fear mongering.

Oftentimes you hear people talk about having done "research" into a controversial health issue. What this commonly means for Internet users is a brief Google search followed by perusal of a few websites, which may or may not contain reliable information. Given the wilderness of competing claims online about benefits and drawbacks of vaccination, it is easy for parents to get confused about whether vaccines are right for their children. This book offers a path through that wilderness. The authors, Stacy Herlihy and E. Allison Hagood have actually done research in the full meaning of the word, making the benefits and issues surrounding immunization readily understandable to non-medical readers with the bonus of a parent's perspective. There is historical context, valuable in understanding the impact of once-feared infectious diseases now conquered or greatly reduced by vaccines. The book has an excellent section that explains vaccine ingredients and debunks the scaremongering on this subject by antivaccine activists. Other myths and false claims about vaccines are dispelled. The result is a highly readable and easy-to-understand book, with all the information parents will need to make sound and sensible choices for their children.

Clearly pushed by the big pharma companies to make a sale of more vaccines. There are no studies showing vaccines are safe. Your baby's best shot is to eat a healthy diet and strengthen the immune system. Vaccines themselves can cause the very illness they purportedly prevent. People are getting measles from something called "shedding." Don't be fooled by this book.

I bought the book, "Your Baby's Best Shot," and it exceeded my expectations. From a parental viewpoint, I found it easy and concise to read. From a nurse's perspective, it gave great insight to the difficult position new parents are in when their child requires immunizations. With all misinformation overload from the media, Internet and 'well-meaning' neighbors, it's overwhelming for parents to make well-educated decisions. The authors are knowledgeable about immunization and provide an excellent service in debunking the common myths in an easy to understand manner. It's apparent that the women behind this book are major advocates for promoting children's health and safety. This book makes a great baby shower gift- a present for both the parent and child. By educating and supporting parents who vaccinate their children, it provides a service that validates a parents decision that protects children from vaccine-preventable diseases and the suffering and potential death that accompany them.

Science, bitches. It works! If you're interested in how vaccines work to protect our children, this book is a good place to start learning.

This book covers a topic that many nervous parents might be wary about. It's understandable to be scared of messing up your new child, but this book spells out how much good vaccination does, and how much risk you are putting a child, and other children, in without vaccination.

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