

## Chickenpox

# Protect your family from chickenpox

**Chickenpox is most common in children under the age of 10. It is an unpleasant and highly contagious viral illness causing fever and itchy, blistering spots. It can be particularly severe in adults.**

An effective vaccine is available which can be given from the age of 1 year. It is not included within the NHS routine schedule; however, Germany, Australia and USA have made it part of their programme of childhood immunisations.

It can be used to prevent chickenpox developing if you have had contact with an infected person in the preceding 5 days.

Two doses of vaccine are required with a minimum of 4 weeks between doses.

The vaccine prevents disease in 98% of children and the remaining 2% will have partial immunity which will result in any episode of chickenpox being mild.

The vaccine is well tolerated. Slight fever and small spots may appear at the injection site about 10 days later in about 10% of children.

**Please speak to the doctor if you would like to arrange a vaccination or require further information. You can also visit [www.surreygp.com](http://www.surreygp.com).**

Tel: 01483 230481 / 0345 4599972

Email: [admin@surreygp.com](mailto:admin@surreygp.com) Fax: 01483 230478

[www.surreygp.com](http://www.surreygp.com)

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