

## Mayo Clinic Minute: Measles, mumps and rubella vaccine for the first day of school

Video	Audio
Robert Jacobson, M.D. Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine Mayo Clinic	This vial contains the MMR vaccine. It can help prevent three devastating illnesses.  "The vaccine is a combination of three vaccines, the 'M' for the measles vaccine, the second 'M' for the mumps vaccine, and the 'R' for the rubella vaccine."
	The first dose of the vaccine is given at 12 to 15 months of age.
	"It's repeated again at 4 to 6 years, just before the child leaves for kindergarten."
	Measles infection can be very serious.
	"It can cause complications, pneumonias, ear infections, encephalitis. It can leave you with a chronic inflammation of your brain. And it can kill."
	Mumps can inflame the brain and cause a form of meningitis.
	Rubella, or German measles, can cause birth defects.
V	"It's a horrific illness for the pregnant woman and her offspring."
	All of these viral infections are highly contagious. Dr. Jacobson advises parents to get their children vaccinated for their safety and for those around them.
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Vivien Williams.