

# Japanese Encephalitis Vaccine

Vaccination,  
the best protection

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Vaccination is the best protection against Japanese encephalitis and its complications. This vaccine is mainly recommended for travellers who will be staying 1 month or longer during the transmission season in a rural setting in a region where Japanese encephalitis is found.

Disease	Transmission	Signs and symptoms	Possible complications
Japanese encephalitis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Japanese encephalitis is spread by the bite of a mosquito infected with the Japanese encephalitis virus.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Fever</li><li>Headache</li><li>Drowsiness (sleepiness), disorientation, tremors and sometimes seizures.</li></ul> <p><i>Only 1 infected person in 200 has symptoms.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Permanent brain damage such as paralysis, epilepsy, mental retardation (20 to 30% of cases)</li><li>Death (30% of cases)</li></ul>

## The vaccine

Vaccination is the best protection against Japanese encephalitis and its complications. Several doses of vaccine are required to obtain the best possible protection.

## Symptoms after vaccination

Some symptoms may be caused by the vaccine (e.g. redness at the injection site). Other problems may occur by chance and are not related to the vaccine (e.g. cold, gastro, headache).

Japanese encephalitis vaccine is safe. In most cases, it does not cause any reaction.

Frequency	Known reactions to this vaccine	What to do
Very often (less than 50% of people)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pain and tenderness at the injection site</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Apply a cold, damp compress at the injection site.</li><li>Use medication for fever or discomfort if needed.</li><li>See a doctor if symptoms are severe.</li></ul>
Often (less than 10% of people)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Swelling and redness at the injection site</li><li>Fever, diarrhea, loss of appetite, irritability and rash in children from ages 1 to 17</li></ul>	

We recommend that you stay at the clinic for at least 15 minutes after vaccination because allergic reactions may occur. If an allergic reaction occurs, the symptoms will appear a few minutes after the vaccination. The person giving the vaccine will be able to treat this reaction immediately.

**For any questions, contact the person giving the vaccine, or Info-Santé 8-1-1 or your doctor.**