IMMUNIZATION OF BABY

Immunization prevents children against diseases. Children can be immunized against the following diseases: diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio, smallpox, measles and tuberculosis. Immunization is given to children in infant welfare clinics, immunization centres and hospitals.

Triple Vaccine (DTP). This is a mixture of three vaccines—the tetanus, whooping cough and diphtheria vaccines. It is given by injection for protection against the three diseases.

Polio Vaccine. This is for protection against polio.

Quadruple Vaccine. This contains four vaccines—diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, and polio vaccines. It protects the child from the four diseases.

Smallpox Vaccine. This is given by injection to protect against smallpox.

Measles Vaccine. This is given by injection to protect against measles.

BCG Vaccine. This protects against tuberculosis.

Immunization Schedule

This means the different times when the baby should be given the different types of immunization. It is shown below:

At birth	B.C.G.
At 2 months	i. First dose of DTP
	ii. First dose of polio vaccine
At 3 months	i. Second dose of DTP
	ii. Second dose of polio vaccine
At 4 months	i. Third dose of DTP
	ii. Third dose of polio vaccine
At 9 months	Measles vaccine

Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI)

EPI is a health programme designed to protect children of 0 – 2 years of age from six deadly diseases. These diseases are tetanus, whooping cough, diphtheria, polio, measles and tuberculosis.