Prior to the introduction of vaccines in 2000, Hib caused **8.13 MILLION** cases of severe disease and **317 THOUSAND DEATHS** worldwide in children **UNDER 5 YEARS OF AGE**.

Thanks to Hib vaccines, the number of cases and deaths **HAVE DECREASED BY 90%**.

**Symptoms**

PNEUMONIA
- Under 5 years old:
  - Fever
  - Fast breathing
  - Retraction of the lower thoracic wall
  - Wheezing (although more common in viral infections)
  - Cough and/or shortness of breath.
- Babies, in addition to these symptoms, may present:
  - Seizures
  - Decreased appetite or inability to suckle or drink
  - Hypothermia
  - Loss of consciousness
  - Respiratory complaint

MENINGITIS/SEPTICEMIA
- >1 and adults:
  - Fever
  - Altered state of consciousness
  - Seizures
  - Headache
  - Drowsy state, confused
- <1 year:
  - Bulging at the top of the head (fontanel)
  - Seizures
  - Decreased appetite or inability to suckle or drink
  - Drowsy state
  - Fever
  - Irritability without other justification.
  - Vomiting

* Hib can also affect joints and bones and cause epiglottitis, a type of throat infection that hinders breathing.

**Transmission**

Hib transmission is by direct contact (person-to-person), or by droplets.

**Vaccines**

Thanks to Hib vaccines, the number of cases and deaths **HAVE DECREASED BY 90%**.

The vaccine can be administered **FROM SIX WEEKS OF LIFE** with a minimum interval of **4 WEEKS BETWEEN DOSES**.

In the Region, the following vaccine schedules are in use for Hib, with three or four doses:

**Esquema 1**
- 2 months (1st dose)
- 4 months (2nd dose)
- 6 months (3rd dose)

**Esquema 2**
- 2 months (1st dose)
- 4 months (2nd dose)
- 6 months (3rd dose)
- 12-18 months (reinforcement)

**Esquema 3**
- 6 weeks (1st dose)
- 10 weeks (2nd dose)
- 14 weeks (3rd dose)

For more information, visit: [www.paho.org/immunization](http://www.paho.org/immunization)