Positioning a Child for Injections

- The mother or caregiver sits and places the child on their lap.
- One of the caregiver’s arms needs to be behind the child’s back.
- One of the child’s arms wraps around the caregiver’s side (child’s shoulder under the caregiver arm or armpit) and the child’s other arm may be held by the caregiver.
- The caregiver may tuck the child’s legs between his/her own legs to secure them, or may hold the child’s legs with his/her arm.
- Vaccinators should not hold the child – they need both hands for administering the injection.
- The vaccinator should always tell the mother or caregiver when they are about to give the injection.

After the Vaccines...

Information the child’s mother or caregiver should have regarding post-vaccine care.

**If the mother or caregiver thinks the child has a fever**

1. Take the child’s temperature using a thermometer.
2. If the child has a temperature of 99.5°F (37.5°C) or higher:
   1. Do not stop breastfeeding.
   2. Give him/her lots of fluids.
   3. Dress him/her in light clothing.
   4. Closely follow the instructions given at a health facility regarding medicine use. Do not use aspirin or self-medicate.

**If the child feels discomfort following the vaccination**

1. Closely follow the instructions given at a health facility regarding medicine use. Do not use aspirin or self-medicate.

**If the child’s leg or arm is red and swollen**

1. Place a damp, clean towel on the affected area, to alleviate the discomfort.
2. Closely follow the instructions given at a health facility regarding medicine use. Do not use aspirin or self-medicate.

**If the mother or caregiver is concerned about the way the child is feeling**

1. If the child is pale or weak
2. If the child has been crying for more than 3 hours and will not stop crying
3. If the child is shaking or convulsing
4. If the child is noticeably less active or alert

**OR**

1. If the discomfort or pain increase after 24 hours, consult a health professional.

**If the redness or pain increase after 24 hours, consult a health professional.**

**If the fever continues, consult a health professional.**

**If the discomfort continues for more than 24 hours, consult a health professional.**

Consult a health professional immediately!