DIPHTHERIA

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

DIPHTHERIA IS A SERIOUS DISEASE
CAUSED BY A TOXIN PRODUCED BY
THE BACTERIUM CORYNEBACTERIUM
DIPHTHERIAE.

DIPHTHERIA IS SPREAD BY DIRECT CONTACT OR THROUGH THE AIR. OUTBREAKS ARE RARE BUT STILL OCCUR AMONG UNVACCINATED POPULATIONS.



SYMPTOMS

- NASAL DISCHARGE
- SORE THROAT
- WEAKNESS
- FEVER
- HEADACHE
- BLUISH SKIN

- SWOLLEN NECK
- "BARKING" COUGH
- PAINFUL
 - **SWALLOWING**
- DIFFICULTY
 BREATHING





VACCINATION PROVIDES PROTECTION
AGAINST DIPHTHERIA AND IS THE MOST
EFFECTIVE WAY TO PREVENT SERIOUS
ILLNESS AT ANY AGE.



- IROUTINE CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATION (DTAP)
 - 2, 4, 6, 12-23 MONTHS AND 4-6
 YEARS
- ADOLESCENT BOOSTER (TDAP)
 - o AT 11-12 YEARS
- ADULT BOOSTER (TDAP OR TD)
 - EVERY 10 YEARS
- WITH EVERY PREGNANCY



