



Vaccine Hesitancy

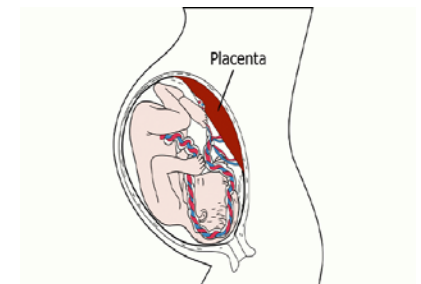
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The Basics

- Understanding the basics of immunity is needed in order to understand how vaccines work.
 - Immunity is the ability of the body to tolerate material that is not part of itself and then eliminate that material.
 - Immunity is a state in which the body is protected from infectious disease.
- Immunity is either natural or artificial.
 - Meaning the protection developed with or without intervention.
 - Mother to baby transfer in the womb is a natural process.
 - Vaccination is artificial immune protection.



Vaccines and Vaccinations

- Vaccine is a product that produces immunity from a disease.
 - Administered by needle injection, by mouth, or by nasal aerosol
- Vaccination is the injection of a killed or weakened organism that produces immunity in the body.
- Immunization is the process by which a person or animal becomes protected from a disease.



Vaccinations are Primary Prevention

Vaccination is one of the single greatest public health achievements of the last century.

- What is primary prevention?
 - Preventing the onset of disease before it happens
 - Reduction of the incidence of disease
 - Lessening the burden (effects) of the cost of the disease
 - interventions that are applied before there is any evidence of disease or injury



Vaccination Myths

- Natural is better. We shouldn't put foreign substances like vaccines into our bodies.
- I'm breastfeeding, so my baby is protected from infections.
- Thimerosal in vaccines causes autism.
- It's not safe to get a flu shot while I'm pregnant.
- I'm better off taking my chances. I never get the flu anyway.
- Flu shots don't really work. I got the vaccine and still got the flu.
- I got the flu from the flu shot.
- The flu shot made me sick.
- It's a government conspiracy.



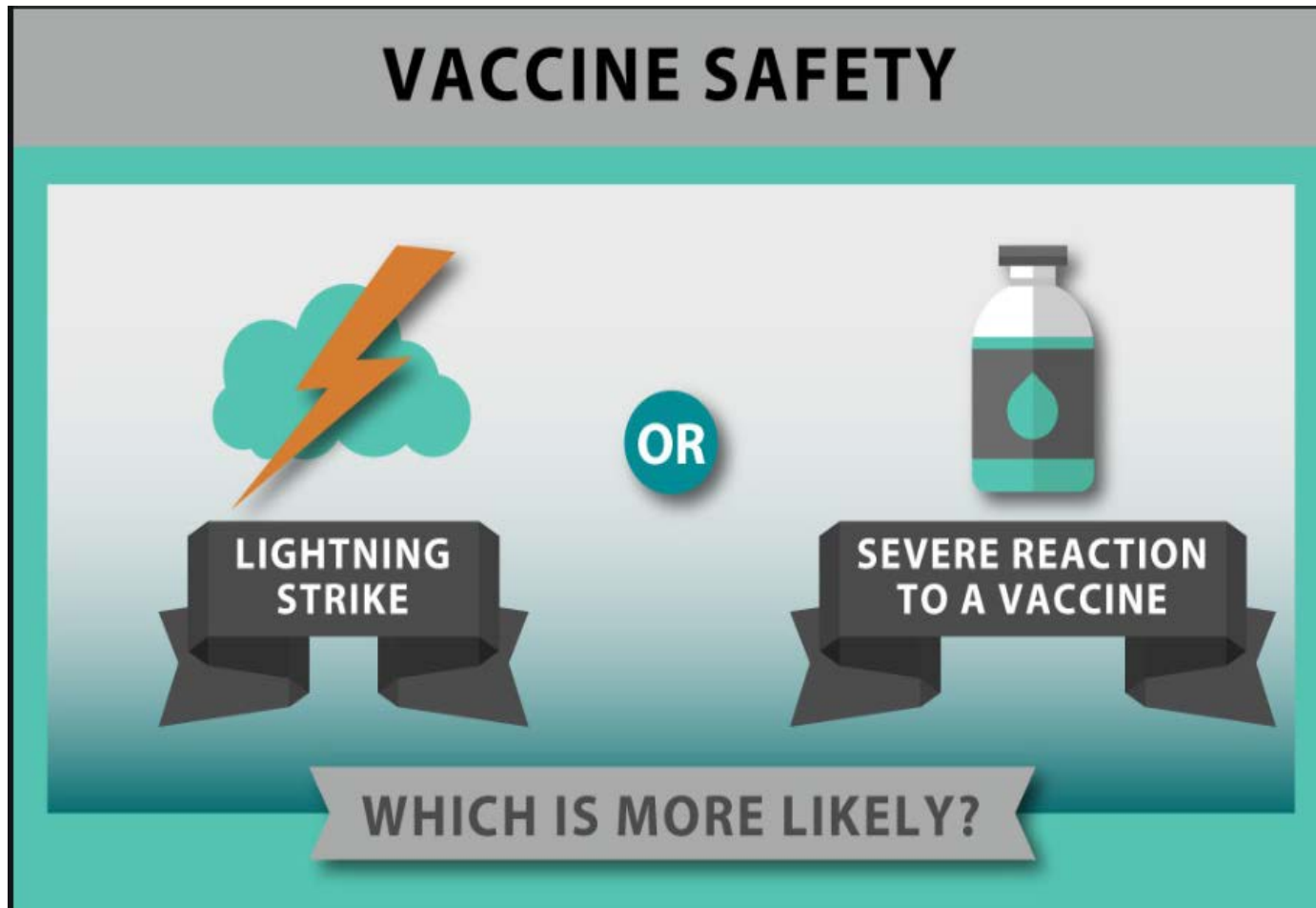
Do vaccinations actually work?

YES!!!!

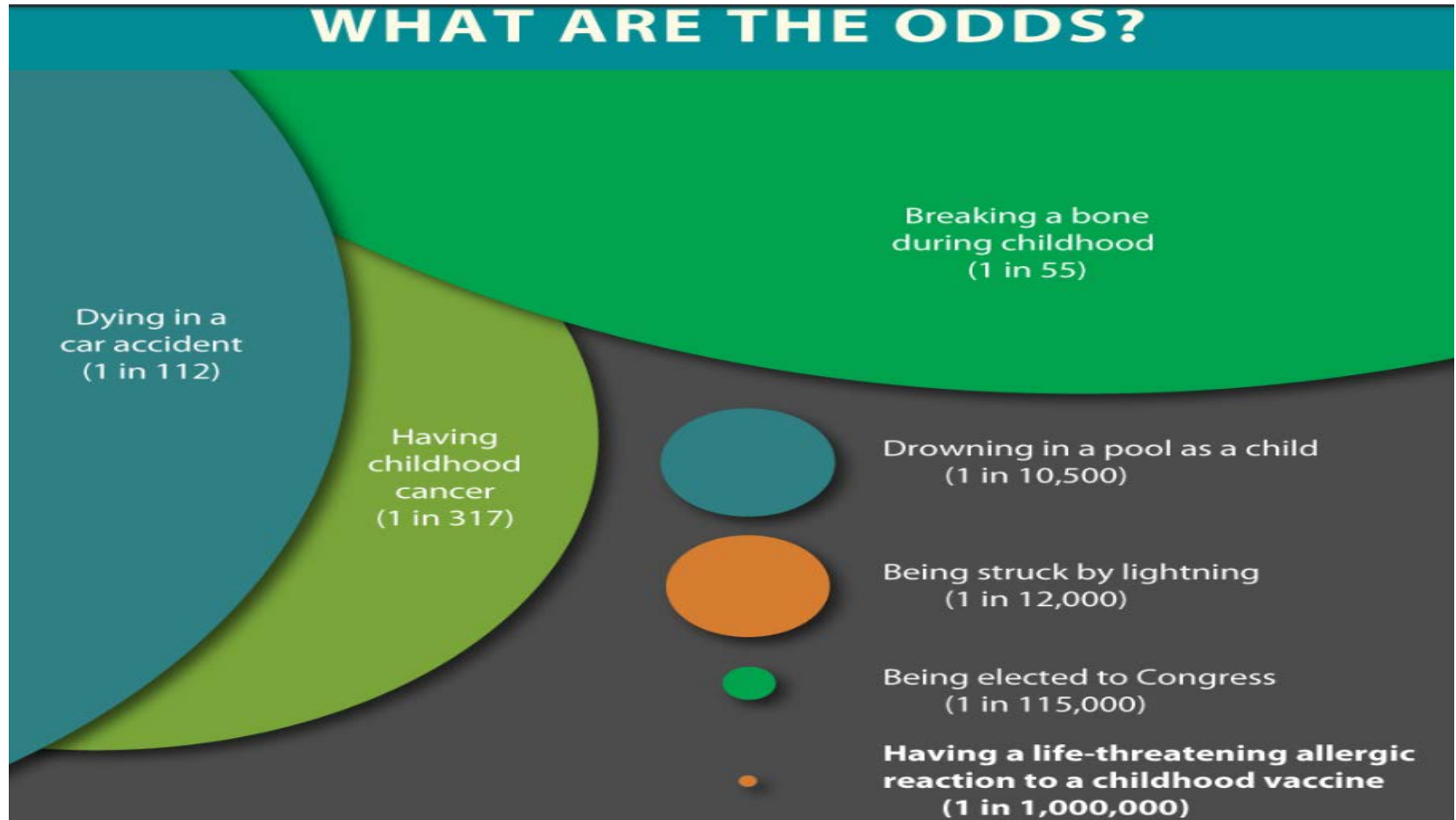
- No medicine is perfect but most childhood vaccines produce immunity about 90-100% of the time.
- Some may argue that diseases are going away on their own because of better hygiene or sanitation.
 - Better hygiene and sanitation can help prevent the spread of disease, but the germs that cause disease are still around.
 - As long as germs exist, they will continue to cause disease.
 - “I give my child pro-biotics, so they will not catch the flu.”



Are vaccines safe?



Adverse Reactions to Vaccines



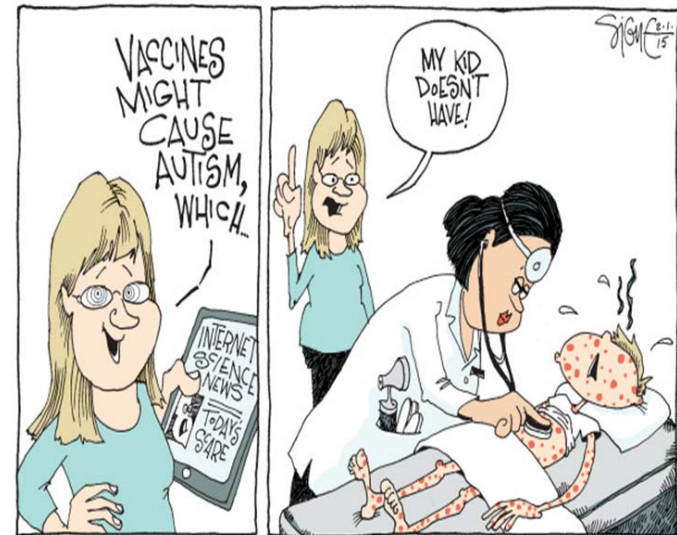
Vaccine Hesitancy



Vaccine Hesitancy

Vaccine hesitancy is a complex and dynamic issue.

- Many factors contribute to a persons decision not to vaccinate themselves or their children.
 - Convenience of getting to the vaccine
 - Positive attitude along with the knowledge of the provider greatly impact decision making
 - Individual's understanding



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Talking to Your Friends

- Be confident in your knowledge about vaccinations
- Share personal stories
- Talk about how well they work (efficacy)
 - Helps to maintain health
- Continued engagement
- Children who are exempted from vaccination are not only at greater risk of developing vaccine-preventable disease but also put vaccinated children and medically exempt children who live in the same area at risk.

SO.....


Protecting Your Community

Those individuals are not just making a choice for themselves but for the community in which they live.

- Protect the vulnerable population
 - Elderly
 - Babies
 - People with medical conditions

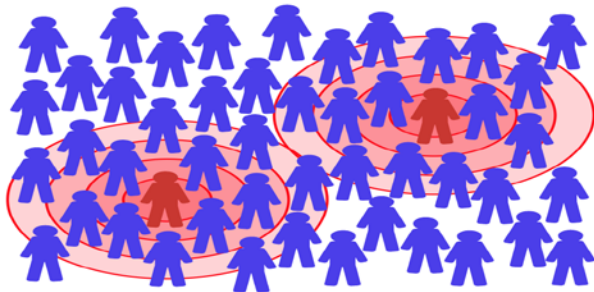


Herd Immunity

 = not immunized, but still healthy

 = immunized and healthy

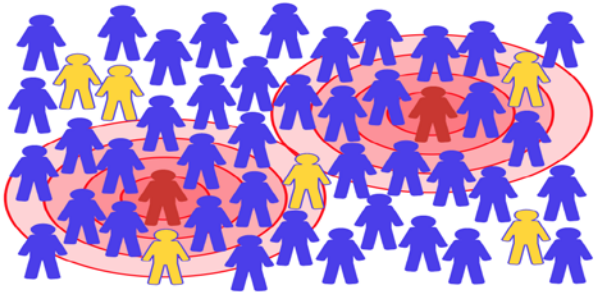
 = not immunized, sick, and contagious



No one is immunized.



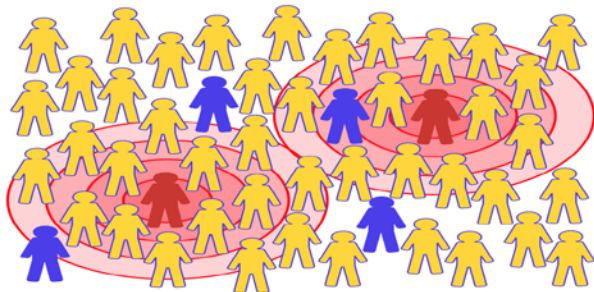
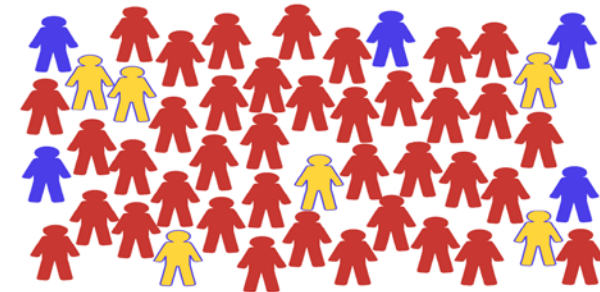
Contagious disease spreads through the population.



Some of the population gets immunized.



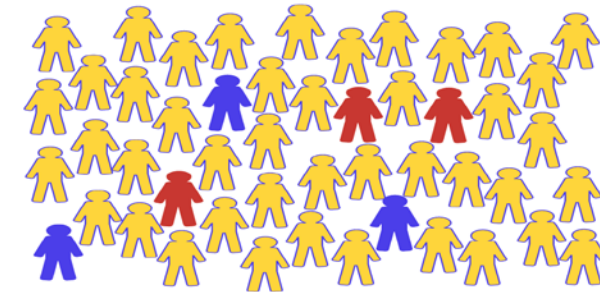
Contagious disease spreads through some of the population



Most of the population gets immunized.



Spread of contagious disease is contained.



Questions?





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