

40 Things Your Doctor Wishes You Knew About Vaccines

This is Mainstream Think. Under each space, refute these premises in your own words. You can quote a study or an article, but NO MORE than 3 sentences. These are sound bites you need for your interactions with others who use these pro-vaccine statements

1. Good hygiene can't replace vaccines
2. You still need the vaccine even if you haven't had the illness
3. Even if you've been vaccinated, you can still get sick
4. Vaccines don't cause illness (think GSB, other side effects)
5. Sometimes you need more than one shot (ie you need a booster)
6. Vaccines won't kill you
7. You don't have to worry about mercury in vaccines
8. You're helping everyone when you get vaccinated (herd immunity)
9. There are no such thing as "hot lots"
10. You still need vaccines even for rare illnesses (meningitis, Yellow fever)
11. Combination vaccines don't overload the immune system
12. Kids don't see HPV vaccines as a green light for unprotected sex
13. Boys need the HPV vaccine too
14. The HPV vaccine works really well
15. You can still get the vaccine even if you've had HPV infection (bad!)
16. The HPV vaccine won't lead to infertility
17. Natural immunity is not better than vaccine acquired immunity (think time)
18. Measles vaccine is available; but measles is still an issue
19. Flu shots won't give you the flu
20. Flu shot isn't a 'sure thing'
21. Don't skip the flu shot because you're healthy
22. The flu vaccine won't make you vulnerable to other viral illnesses (Canadian study)
23. You can get the flu shot at any time
24. Pregnant women don't need a doctor's approval for the flu shot
25. Don't skip a vaccine if you're sick
26. Egg allergies are not a reason to skip an influenza vaccine
27. Flu vaccines don't prevent the stomach flu
28. Vaccines **definitely do not** cause autism
29. Adults definitely need vaccines too
30. If you're over 50, be sure to get a shingles vaccine
31. Vaccines are more **effective** than people realize
32. Don't listen to people who say vaccines are a scam
33. Be sure to get the chickenpox vaccine
34. Don't delay infant vaccines
35. You're not more likely to get sick from the vaccine than from the virus
36. The FDA is a careful and thorough vaccine watchdog (think recalls, fast tracking)
37. The FDA's vaccine-monitoring efforts are ongoing (VAERS)
38. Vaccines are working wonders

39. Most parents ARE vaccinating their children

40. We eradicated smallpox, maybe we can eradicate all infectious illnesses