

FAQ by Ukrainian parents on vaccines for children

What do I do if my child has been following the Ukrainian immunization calendar and the Slovak one differs? Should I wait until I return to Ukraine?

It is extremely important to vaccinate your child on time, according to the vaccination calendar and available vaccines in the country you currently reside. Although slightly different, calendars in both countries follow up-to-date recommendations from relevant international health institutions. Keep your child's vaccination record with you and share it with your pediatrician upon your return to Ukraine.

Will I need Slovak health insurance?

If you are registered for Temporary Protection, your child is entitled to free vaccination. For more information on Temporary Protection, please visit:

<https://portal.minv.sk/wps/wcm/connect/sk/site/main/zivotne-situacie/Cudzinci/registracia-docasneho-utociska>

Do I have to pay to get my child vaccinated?

No. As of 1 January 2023, all Ukrainian children with Temporary Protection status are entitled to full health coverage, including free vaccination, under Slovak law. Keep in mind, however, that this applies only to the vaccines included in the Slovak Vaccination Calendar. This means that you can go to the pediatrician you have registered your child with or, alternatively, to the nearest primary health care clinic, where you will be able to choose a pediatrician.

Where can I vaccinate my child?

This will depend on where you live. As a general guidance, please visit a pediatrician close to you, as he or she will either vaccinate your child directly or refer you to the nearest vaccination point.

If you live in Bratislava, you can go to the Rovniankova clinic, which is directly supported by UNICEF.

Contact <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100082853936580>,

e-mail: ukrayinskaklinikabratislava@gmail.com

Where can I find information on vaccines in Ukrainian language?

You can also visit the official websites of the Ministry of Health and Center of Public Health in Ukraine where you can find the information on vaccination and the Ukrainian vaccination calendar:

- <https://phc.org.ua/kontrol-zakhvoryuvan/imunizaciya/zagalna-informaciya>
- <https://moz.gov.ua/article/immunization/kalendar-profilaktichnih-sheplen>

To get more information on vaccination or the recommendations of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine for refugees and displaced persons, please visit: <https://moz.gov.ua/article/health/jak-otrimati-dani-pro-provedeni-scheplennja-rekomendacii-moz-dlja-bizhenciv-i-pereselenciv>

You can check which vaccinations are mandatory by selecting “Slovakia” at the following link, <https://vaccine-schedule.ecdc.europa.eu/> and compare it with the Ukrainian national vaccination calendar, which can be found here: <https://moz.gov.ua/article/immunization/kalendar-profilaktichnih-scheplen>

What if me and my doctor face a language barrier?

Some clinics may have Ukrainian staff that could be of support. Otherwise, try to see if you have other languages in common with the doctor, such as English or Russian. You can always try to call a friend who speaks both Slovak and Ukrainian or ask them to accompany you to the clinic beforehand. As a last resort, Google Translate, or other platforms such as [Deep L](#), could work.

I work during the day. Is there a way to vaccinate my child during in the evening or during the weekend?

Most of the primary healthcare clinics are open from 8:00 a.m. - 06:00 p.m, which is not always ideal for parents that work. You can try to consult with your pediatrician to when is the best time to come for vaccination, or to understand whether some clinics will be open at times suit your schedule better.

Can I trust the Slovak health system?

Slovakia is EU member country and the health system is established following strong rules and conditions for operating. The Ministry of Health plays a key regulatory role in defining the benefits package, regulating maximum waiting times, setting minimum numbers of outpatient and inpatient networks that insurance companies need to contract and regulating pharmaceutical prices and (since 2015) user fees.