

Vaccinating Patients with Sensory Disorders:

Before the shot:

- How have vaccine experiences gone before?
- To help us prepare for a positive experience, please let us know about accommodations that will help make this a successful vaccine experience.

Preparing for the shot:

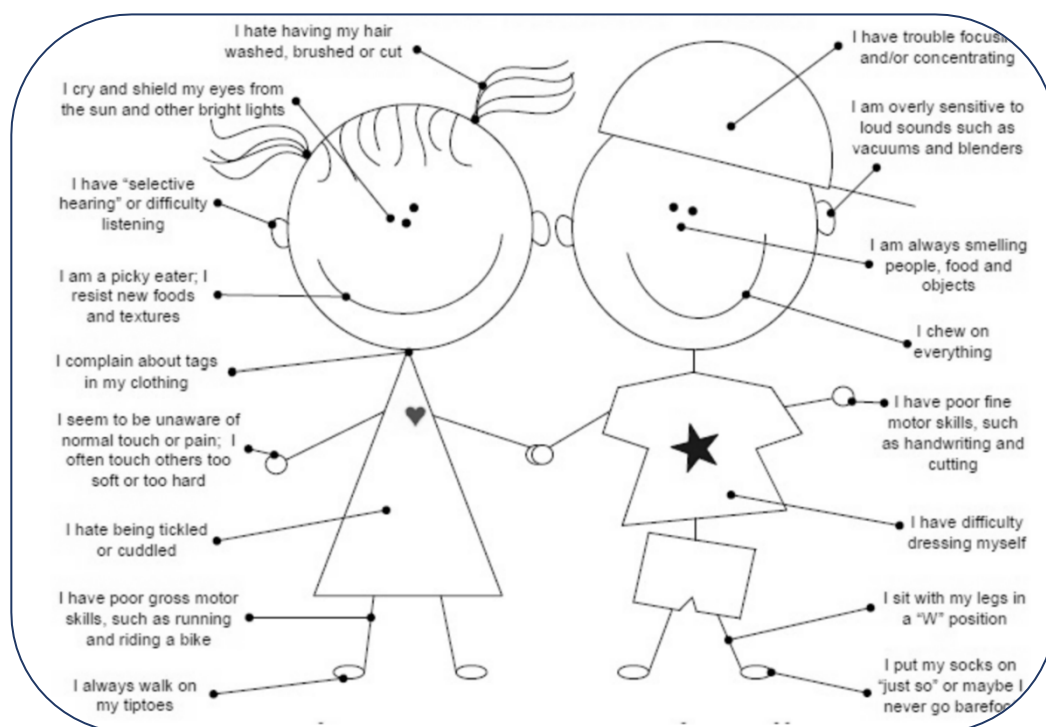
- Plan for a few extra minutes and avoid interruptions if possible.
- Communicate with the child at a level that he/she can understand. Use a “**tell, show, do**” approach when explaining procedures. Be clear and concise.
- If possible have them use an electronic device.
- Ask the child to put their hands on their stomach (tummy, belly). Ask the parent to “hold hands” with their child to help prevent flinching. Or ask if the child can be placed on the parent’s lap for a “bear hug”:

- ① **Child faces parent** - arms held under parent’s arms. Parents legs wrap around child’s legs.
- ② **Child faces away from parent** - Parent secures arms w/ each hand and wraps legs around child’s legs.

Giving the Shot:

- Start slowly, using only fingers at first to touch the arm. If this is successful, begin using swab/pinching-up of muscle.
- Keep the needle out of sight but let them know a “little pinch” as you insert the needle.

- Consider non-pharmaceutical interventions: Ethyl Chloride Spray, Buzzy, shot blocker
- Observe unusual body movements and anticipate future movements. Keep area around the child clear.
- Immobilization techniques may be used only with **parental consent** to keep the child from potential injury.



After the Shot:

- Reward cooperative behavior with reinforcements that are motivating to the child - stickers, verbal reinforcement, etc.
- Know how grateful the parent is for your kindness & expertise!



① Therapeutic Hold Facing Away from Parent



② Therapeutic Hold Facing Parent