



4 Medical

Health check-ups and immunization services are available for infants and children to help them grow healthily. Newsletters from municipal administrative offices, which carry information on these services, must be carefully followed.

4-1 Health check-ups for infants and children (group check-ups)

Regular check-ups are in place for children at the age of three to four months, eight to ten months, 18 months, three years and so on, covering the diagnosis of growth and development, measurement of height and weight and childcare consultation. Specific dates and conditions are different among municipalities and must be confirmed at local municipal administrative offices.

4-2 Immunizations (vaccinations)

Vaccinations are done via injections etc. to prevent infections and occurrence of diseases and alleviate symptoms and expansion of problems.

Vaccinations pursuant to the Vaccination Law are free of charge. It is important to gain immunity against diseases.

Any matters which are unclear or which you are concerned about should be confirmed with your home doctor, local municipal administrative office or public health center.

4-3 Special exception for medical cost for infants and children

If you have contributed to a health insurance program, you bear 30% of the total medical costs incurred as a general rule. For medical services applied to your children who are below compulsory-school-going age (up to the first March 31 after a child's 6th birthday), you bear 20% of the total costs incurred. Also, each local administrative district (prefecture, city, etc.) has its own infant and child medical expenses support programs.