

[PKIDs Immunization Videos - Rotavirus](#)

(Note: Except when noted, the speaker is shown on the screen. There is music playing softly in the background through most of the video.)

Dad: As parents, you're supposed to protect your kids and provide everything you can.

Mom: A few months ago...

(Image of daughter)

Mom: ...our two year old daughter had gotten what we thought was just a run-of-the-mill stomach virus and was vomiting and had diarrhea. She seemed a little better in the morning, and then, all of the sudden, she just became rapidly worse. It was just constant vomiting, constant diarrhea.

(Image of smiling daughter)

Mom: So we went to the emergency room, and by the time we got there she was severely dehydrated.

Dad: They were really having a hard time putting an IV in her, so they had to stick her, like, over 10 times.

Mom: She was crying and there were no tears, you know, because she was so dehydrated.

(Video clip of a child being examined in a doctor's office)

Mom: They tried in her forehead, both of her hands, her feet, her arms, her legs.

(Image of daughter)

Mom: She got to the point where when she would see someone coming at her with a needle she would just take her little blanket and cover up her head.

Dad: It was one of the toughest things I've ever had to watch.

Mom: There was the vascular specialist team that they were talking about calling in to start an IV. They even had said that they may have to drill a hole into her bone marrow. And one of the nurses just said, you know, "Let me give it a shot" and was able to get an IV started.

Doctor: Rotavirus is so common, that almost no one makes it to the age of five without having had this infection.

(Image of IV draining)

Doctor: But in the pediatric emergency rooms, we see so many children who end up hospitalized.

Dad: She started to get better. We could tell the difference right away, but they said that they were going to have to watch her for quite awhile.

Mom: My husband was staying at the hospital with our daughter and then they came in and said that her rotavirus test did come back positive.

Doctor: Rotavirus is the number one cause of diarrhea in infants and children.

Mom: Our doctor's office didn't have the rotavirus vaccine and he'd said, you know, "Just run over to the county health department." And I thought, "Eh, rotavirus, no big deal, my other kids have had that."

Doctor: You need to get your child vaccinated against rotavirus because it is a serious cause of diarrhea: the one that's most likely to have your child end up hospitalized.

Mom: It was horrible to watch her suffer like that, and then later to find out that I could have prevented it.

Dad: My wife and I were together taking care of her and I thought, "Oh, this is great, so everything's going to be fine."

Mom: I'd called home to check on our youngest son who'd also been sick...

(Image series of son)

Mom: ...and our girlfriend who was babysitting said, you know, "I think you need to take him in to be looked at."

Doctor: It's highly contagious. I often hear of families who have more than one child with this at the same time.

Mom: And they transferred him by ambulance to the same children's hospital, and he stayed for three days and she stayed for four days.

Dad: But I still wasn't able to see him yet. I could leave my daughter to go see my son.

Mom: The first night that he was in the hospital...

(Video clips of diaper changing and disposal)

Mom: ...we went through 22 diapers in like a 14-hour period.

Doctor: You have trouble keeping up with it, and then just as the child is having diarrhea, they are also having vomiting.

Mom: And so it was like five minutes in the hall...

(Image of hallway)

Mom: ...trade places for a little while, wait 'til they were asleep, meet in the hall again, trade places.

Dad: It never crossed my mind that both of my kids would be that sick at the same time.

Mom: There was laundry...

(Video clip of laundry being washed)

Mom: ...probably 25 loads of laundry, you know, all contaminated.

Doctor: People try to prevent rotavirus through good hand washing, by cleaning surfaces. And those are important. But the best protection for children is through vaccination.

Mom: My actions caused my kids to suffer, and that's kind of a hard thing to swallow.

Voiceover: Check with your provider to see if immunization is right for your family.

(Image: PKIDS.ORG Parents of Kids with Infectious Diseases)