Rotavirus is one of the most serious causes of diarrhea in infants and young children. The virus can live on surfaces for months. It spreads when contaminated hands, toys, or other objects touch the mouth.

Yes. Common symptoms of rotavirus disease include high fever, vomiting, abdominal pain, and diarrhea. Children often stop eating and drinking and become dehydrated (lose fluids).

Around the world, rotavirus kills about a half million infants and young children every year.

Yes. Rotavirus is a very common disease in infants and young children. Almost all unvaccinated children get infected with rotavirus before they are 5 years old. Even if you wash your hands and keep everything really clean, your child can still get infected if not vaccinated.

You can protect your child from rotavirus with vaccination. All children should get 2–3 doses (depending on the brand) of rotavirus vaccine starting at 2 months of age. The vaccine is a liquid that is swallowed.

For more information, visit www.vaccineinformation.org