

## 2 Doses of Varicella for 2010 Birth Cohort Now Mandatory

**Attention:** Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Family Health Teams, Walk-in Clinics

**Date:** July 11, 2017

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### Immunization Record Review:

The health unit is required under the Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA), to collect and maintain up-to-date immunization records for every student who attends school in our jurisdiction. We are currently reviewing immunization records for students born in 2010. Under ISPA this cohort requires:

- 2 doses of MMR, on or after 1<sup>st</sup> birthday
- 1 dose of Men C-C on or after 1<sup>st</sup> birthday
- 2 doses of Varicella after 1<sup>st</sup> birthday
- 4-6 year Tdap-IPV booster

### Please note:

- This is the first cohort now requiring **2 doses of varicella vaccine**. The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit is currently sending home questionnaires to children born in 2010 whose immunizations records are not up to date with the health unit.

If a student presents at your practice with an immunization notice from the health unit, please review to see what immunization information is required. Many students will likely have received immunizations from their health care provider already but have not informed the health unit.

- In order to update all 2010 cohort student's immunization and to assist the student avoid the suspension process please: Provide immunization information that you have on file, ensuring accurate timelines have been followed for on or after first birthday for MMR and Men C-C to clients so they can share with the health unit.
- Ensure when providing vaccines, that parents know they need to report the information to the health unit.
- **If a patient had a clinical diagnosis of varicella disease at 12 months of age or older, or has a serology report indicating immunity, the Health Care Provider can complete a "[Statement of Medical Exemption](#)" Form.** With a diagnosis of varicella disease the age the child had the disease must be included in the section provided to "define evidence of immunity". This form can be located on the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit's website under forms.  
<http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/jfy/PCPortal/PCPCategories/Immunization.aspx>
- If the patient had varicella disease before 12 months of age, it is recommended that the child still complete routine immunization with two doses of varicella-containing vaccine 12 months of age or older, because varicella disease at less than 12 months of age has been associated with an increased risk of a second episode of varicella (Canadian Immunization Guide, Varicella Chapter)
- If you have a student who is not being immunized for reasons other than medical, please refer them for a Statement of Conscious or Religious Belief form. This form must be obtained from the health unit and notarized.

If you have any questions regarding the school immunization requirements or processes please contact the Vaccine Preventable Disease Program at 705-721-7520 or toll free at 1-877-721-7520 ext. 8806.