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Immunization Record Review Update

Attention: Physicians, Emergency Departments, Hospital Laboratories, Infection Control Practitioners, Occupational Health Practitioners, Walk-In Clinics/Urgent Care Clinics, Nurse and Nurse Practitioners, Family Health Teams, Pharmacies, Ontario Health Central, Beausoleil First Nation, Moose Deer Point First Nation, Rama First Nation, Wahta First Nation, Long-term Care Homes, Retirement Homes

Date: June 12, 2023

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit has resumed immunization record review work, in anticipation of resuming Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA) surveillance activities in the 2023/2024 school year. We have been offering many catch-up immunization clinics for students who are behind on their required vaccinations under the ISPA or who missed their grade 7 immunization program vaccines (Hep B, Men-C-ACYW or HPV) through the pandemic. These catch-up clinics will be continuing all summer long in all our health unit offices by appointment, which families can easily book appointments for on our website. The following table outlines the schedule of when notices will be sent to any student whose record on file with the health unit is not update to date according to the ISPA:

	Initial Letters	2nd Notices	Suspension Planned
Elementary Students	Sent home via school April -June 2023	To be sent home via school late Fall 2023	February/March 2024
Secondary Students	Mailed home January 2023	Mailed home June 2023	September 26, 2023

When you provide immunizations to school age children in your practice, be sure to remind parents that they need to report this information to the health unit so that their child's record on file can be updated. Through our immunization surveillance process, we find many children have received the vaccines, but they just have not reported the information to the health unit. Ensuring that patients know to report the information to the health unit at the time the vaccines are received, will prevent them from receiving notifications from us years later and having to contact your practice to obtain the information needed to update their record.

Parents can access our online reporting system 24/7 at www.smdhu.org/immsonline to report their child's vaccinations, or by calling Health Connection Monday to Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

You may notice an increase in students booking appointments over the summer to receive vaccines, so you may need to increase your vaccine orders accordingly.

