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## Immunization of School Pupils Act suspension for High School Students in Grade 11 & 12

**Attention:** Physicians, Community Health Care, Walk-In Clinics/Urgent Care Clinics, Nurse and Nurse Practitioners, Family Health Teams, Indigenous Health Care & Community, Ontario Health Central

**Date:** September 6, 2023

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In preparation for the upcoming Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA) suspension in Simcoe Muskoka, the Immunization Program would like to share the following information:

Students born in 2006 & 2007 are at risk of suspension from school on September 26, 2023 for not having updated immunizations or a valid exemption.

The following table outlines the schedule of when notices were or will be sent to any student whose record on file with the health unit is not up-to-date according to the ISPA:

	<b>Initial Letters</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Notices</b>	<b>Suspension Planned</b>
<b>Secondary Students</b>	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. It is best done electronically [www.smdhu.org/immsonline](http://www.smdhu.org/immsonline). 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.

### Ordering Men-C-ACYW Vaccine

While Men-C-ACYW (Nimenrix®, Menactra® or Menveo™) is not a vaccine that is routinely ordered and stocked by Health Care Providers, you can order a small quantity to have on hand for any students who did not receive their grade 7 dose and are now eligible for suspension. To do so, complete the "Grade 8-12 Student Men-C-ACYW Order Form" on our [website](#).

### Mandatory Immunization Education Session for Parents Requesting an Affidavit

Effective September 1, 2017, any parent/guardian who wants to file a Statement of Conscience or Religious Belief form (Affidavit) under the ISPA for their child will need to complete an education session at the health unit. Please direct any parent wanting to file an affidavit to contact the health unit at 705-721-7520 or toll-free 1-877-721-7520 for more information on this new process.

Parents can access our online reporting system 24/7 at [www.smdhu.org/immsonline](http://www.smdhu.org/immsonline) to report their child's vaccinations, or by calling Health Connection Monday to Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm at (705) 721-7520.

