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High School Immunization Catch-Up Clinics and Immunization Record Review Plans for 2023-2024 School Year

Attention: Physicians, Nurse and Nurse Practitioners, Walk-In Clinics/Urgent Care Clinics, Family Health Teams, Beausoleil First Nation, Moose Deer Point First Nation, Rama First Nation, Wahta First Nation, Ontario Health Central

Date: January 4, 2023

High School Immunization Catch-Up Clinics for Routine Immunizations

During the pandemic, many high school students were unable to receive their routine and required immunizations. To help students get caught up, the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) in partnership with local school boards, will offer school-based clinics in all high schools, throughout Simcoe Muskoka in the new year.

In January, letters will be mailed to high school students and their families to notify them if the student's record on file at the health unit is not up to date, and if not, what information is missing.

School immunization nurses will be visiting local high schools in February and March 2023 to offer catch-up clinics.

Immunizations offered will include:

- Required vaccines (Tdap booster) for 14 to 16-year-olds, Men-C-ACYW (Meningitis – offered in Grade 7) and/or Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR), if missed;
- Second dose Varicella (Chicken pox vaccine), if missed (recommended but not required under the Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA));
- Hepatitis B and Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccines that are offered for Grade 7 students that may have been missed previously (recommended but not required under ISPA).



Immunization Record Review Plans for 2023-2024 School Year

2023-2024 School Immunization Program

2023								2024									
2022-2023 School Year				2023-2024 School Year													
January	February	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	October	November	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June
Notification of missing immunizations mailed home to secondary students January - March			Notification of missing immunizations mailed home to secondary students June - August			Secondary school suspension Date TBD											
Secondary school catch up clinics January - March																	
					Notification of missing immunizations mailed home to elementary school students June - August							Notification of missing immunizations mailed home to elementary school students December - March			Elementary school suspension Date TBD		
				Elementary school clinics Round 2 April - June				Elementary school clinics Round 1 October - November						Elementary school clinics Round 2 April - June			

SMDHU recommends getting immunized according to the [Publicly Funded Immunization Schedule for Ontario](#). Having up to date immunizations help ensure our youth have the best protection against certain preventable diseases and help reduce the risk of outbreaks in school.

The health unit is required to have up to date immunization records for all students under the [Immunization of School Pupils Act](#) for the following designated diseases:

- Diphtheria
- Tetanus
- Polio
- Measles
- Mumps
- Rubella
- Meningococcal Disease
- Pertussis (whooping cough)
- Varicella (chickenpox) – for children born in 2010 or later

Students who cannot or chose not to be vaccinated are required to submit required documentation.

If students have received immunizations that have not been reported to the health unit, parents need to [update](#) their child’s immunization record on file at the health unit.

For more information about routine and mandatory vaccines given to students and the diseases they prevent, please visit smdhu.org/Grade9to12. You can also speak with a public health professional by calling Health Connection, 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.