



TIP SHEET 31 • WINTER 2012

The Immunization Questionnaires are OUT!

Partnering with Physicians to Keep York Region Students Protected

Helpful Vaccine Tips and Recommendations



Catching Up with Students' Immunizations

Every fall we review the immunization records of all students registered for school in York Region (*Immunization of School Pupils Act, 1990*). The goal is to ensure that students are protected against these designated diseases: diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps and rubella. If a student is not up-to-date with these vaccinations, and a signed exemption form is not on file, we may suspend the student from attending school. All other publicly funded vaccines are optional and students cannot be suspended for not having them.

We offer both mandatory and voluntary vaccinations at our monthly Community Immunization Clinics for children who attend school in York Region. These vaccines include: Quadracel®, MMR, Imovax Polio®, Adacel®, Hepatitis B, Menactra®, and Gardasil®.

Richmond Hill Welcome Centre

9325 Yonge Street, Unit 31A
Richmond Hill
1st Wednesday of the month
3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Vaughan Welcome Centre

9100 Jane Street, Building H, Unit 56-57
Vaughan
2nd Wednesday of the month
3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Newmarket Royal Canadian Legion

707 Strigley Street, Newmarket
3rd Wednesday of the month
3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Markham North Welcome Centre

8400 Woodbine Avenue, Suite 102-103, Markham
4th Wednesday of the month
3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Georgina Ice Palace

90 Wexford Drive, Keswick
4th Tuesday of every other month (even months)
3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

For more information, go to www.york.ca/immunization



Did you know?

• We're getting the scoop on immunizations.

Your office may be contacted in the near future to test out two new reporting tools that have been designed to help us collect immunization information for York Region students. Although it is the responsibility of the parent to provide us with updates, we welcome your input too!

• Boostrix® and Adacel®.

We now have two vaccines that provide protection against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis. Either one can be used as the 14 to 16 year old booster, and for adults aged 19 to 64 years, as the one lifetime dose of Tdap. Vaccine fact sheets are available on our website at: www.york.ca/immunization

CHANGE OF DOSING SCHEDULE FOR FLU

Although the product monographs for the publicly-funded influenza vaccines state that children between the ages of six months and three years should receive a 0.25 ml dose, the *National Advisory Committee on Immunizations* now recommends that these children receive a 0.5 ml dose. Check out the complete statement online at: <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/ccdr-rmtc/11vol37/acs-dcc-5/index-eng.php>

The Hepatitis B Vaccine Debate

Parents of Grade 7 students often ask us to provide an additional dose (or series of doses) of Hepatitis B vaccine to their previously vaccinated children, in the School Immunization Program and our Community Immunization Clinics. They frequently report that their family doctor or paediatrician has recommended a "booster" dose of the vaccine. This is what the National Advisory Committee on Immunizations (NACI) states:

- Routine boosters in immunocompetent persons are not needed
- Post-immunization testing for universal programs is not necessary
- Infants born to infected mothers, sexual partners and household contacts of chronic carriers, and those at risk of occupational exposure should be tested post-immunization, to ensure protection
- If necessary, testing should be done at least one month (but no longer than six months) after the last dose of vaccine
- If protective antibody is documented, neither further testing nor immunization is needed*

You can help by reassuring your patients that if they have received a complete series of Hepatitis B vaccine, they are protected.

* Canadian Immunization Guide 2006, Seventh Edition, pg. 201-203

We speak the same language!

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario's booklet, "*A Practical Guide for Safe and Effective Office-Based Practices*", February 2010, has a section on Vaccine Storage and Handling. See page 19 at: <http://www.cpso.on.ca/uploadedFiles/policies/guidelines/office/SafePractices.pdf>

Questions?

Call York Region Community and Health Services at:

1-877-794-1880
and press 9

to speak with a vaccine nurse.

TTY: 1-866-252-9933