

HALTON REGION PUBLIC HEALTH

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TO: Halton Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Emergency Departments

FROM: Dr. Joanna Oda, Associate Medical Officer of Health

DATE: February 12, 2021

RE: Immunization updates – Grade 7 School-Based Vaccines and Publicly Funded Immunization Schedule

QUICK FACTS

- Halton Region Public Health is temporarily suspending its grade 7 school-based immunization clinics as of February 25, 2021. Physicians can [special order vaccines online](#) for eligible grade 7 (birth year 2008) and grade 8 students (birth year 2007).
- The school-based vaccines are:
 - [Meningococcal Conjugate-ACYW-135 \(Men-C-ACYW\)](#), **1 dose – Required by Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA)**
 - [Human Papillomavirus \(HPV\) 9-valent](#), **2 doses given 6 months apart** - Recommended
 - [Hepatitis B \(HB\)](#), **2 doses given 6 months apart** - Recommended
- The [publicly funded immunization schedule](#) has been updated. Key updates include:
 - Vaccine updates including: HPV-9, Rotavirus-5, Herpes Zoster (Shingrix). Removed references to Td-IPV, DTaP-IPV, and DTaP-IPV-Hib (where applicable).
 - Updated wording to provide clarity and updated catch-up tables to accommodate 'aging-out' of applicable cohorts.

KEY MESSAGES FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

- Physicians may be contacted by parents/guardians of Grade 7/8 students to schedule immunizations.
- Visit [Vaccine Information for Physicians](#) to order [routine, high-risk and school-based vaccines](#).
- Vaccine will be delivered by courier bi-weekly. Place vaccine orders by the Wednesday before scheduled delivery.
- Follow vaccine storage and handling practices and report any cold chain failures.

KEY MESSAGES FOR PATIENTS

- Remember to update your child's vaccination record online at [halton.ca/immunize](#).
- Students who receive vaccines may experience reactions that are similar to the symptoms of COVID-19 such as fever and/or chills; feeling tired (fatigued); headache or body aches; and/or nausea.
- If a student develops any of these symptoms after receiving a vaccine, stay home and isolate for at least 24 hours. Use the Province's self-assessment or school screening tool to determine whether a COVID-19 test is needed. Additional information about any possible side effects online at [halton.ca/immunize](#).

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [Publicly funded immunization schedule for Ontario](#), Ministry of Health

Please report all suspected/confirmed cases of [Diseases of Public Health Significance](#) to Public Health immediately by calling 311, 905-825-6000 or toll free at 1-866-442-5866.

PLEASE POST IN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS AND PHYSICIAN LOUNGES – IF YOU CAN'T ACCESS HYPERLINKS OR DIDN'T RECEIVE IN FULL, PLEASE EMAIL DOCTORS@HALTON.CA FOR ELECTRONIC COPY.