



Health Department Updates for Halton Health Care Providers

October 2015

Message from the Medical Officer of Health

Now that students are back at school, it's a great time to ensure your patients receive their flu shots and are up-to-date on their vaccinations. Health care providers play an essential role in presenting parents with evidence-based information regarding immunization. The Halton Region Health Department would like to provide you with resources on some simple and effective ways to approach the vaccine-hesitant parent, as well as information on how parents can access the new online immunization reporting tool. I also want to link you to the Regional flu clinic schedule and extend an invitation for you to join me as I host a webinar for primary health care providers. Wishing you a happy and healthy autumn!



Dr. Hamidah Meghani
Medical Officer of Health, Halton Region

What's new for Halton physicians?



Vaccine hesitancy and encouraging parents to report

In order to implement strategies to enhance the health of children and our community, it is important to understand the causes of vaccine hesitancy. For approaches to answering difficult immunization questions, visit halton.ca/physicians. To ensure the Halton Region Health Department has up-to-date records when enforcing the provincial *Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA)*, please encourage parents to report their child's immunization records at halton.ca/immunization.



Staying healthy during flu season

Flu season is upon us and the best way to protect against getting and spreading the flu is to get the annual influenza immunization. Remind your patients that they can get their flu shot at your office, walk-in clinics, many pharmacies and some work places. For the Regional flu clinic schedule, visit halton.ca/flu.

Webinar: Concussion policy in schools and implications for physicians

Join Dr. Meghani as she hosts a webinar for primary health care providers on why concussions are a problem in Halton and what it means for physicians and their patients. Visit halton.ca/physicians to register for the webinar taking place on November 12 at 5 p.m.

