



Message from the Medical Officer of Health

As physicians, the warmer weather often brings with it a different set of issues as people encounter poison ivy, ticks and more. To help prepare for the busy tick season ahead, it was encouraging to see so many of you at our first Continuing Medical Education (CME) event about rabies and Lyme disease. If you were unable to attend, please call 311 and we can send you a Rabies and Lyme Disease Roles and Responsibilities Chart to support your practice.

At the CME event, you told us that you wanted more details about immunization so we've dedicated this entire edition to it. Summer is the perfect time to ensure vaccines are updated before school, as well as updating immunization records for all your school-aged patients to avoid the rush later during the suspension process.

Enjoy your summer and thank you for all you do to keep Halton a healthy community.



Dr. Hamidah Meghani
Medical Officer of Health, Halton Region

What's new for Halton physicians?



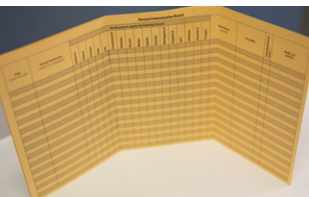
Start reviewing student immunization records now to avoid the rush

During the 2018-2019 school year, high school students and those born in 2010 with out-of-date immunization records will be at risk for school suspension in early 2019. If needed, you can special order the Men-C-ACYW-135 vaccine for eligible students from the Health Department. For more information, visit halton.ca.



Summer Men-C-ACYW-135 catch-up clinics

In mid-June, the Health Department mailed immunization notices to families of students entering grade 8 or 9 this fall who missed receiving the Men-C-ACYW-135 vaccine in grade 7. To help immunize these students, the Health Department has scheduled special catch-up clinics over the summer which can be booked online at the web address in their notice or by calling 311. For more information, visit halton.ca.



Immunization reporting update

Implementation of changes to immunization reporting by physicians has been put on hold pending further consultations with the Ontario Medical Association (OMA). The provincial legislation had mandated physicians and nurses administering vaccination(s) to children (0 to 17) as part of the *Immunization of School Pupils Act*, to report immunization records to the local Medical Officer of Health. Please encourage your patients to continue to report their immunization records online at halton.ca or by calling 311.



Visit halton.ca/physicianupdates to sign up for important health updates emailed to you from the Health Department.

