



## Message from the Medical Officer of Health

While the news may be reporting on changes to public health and healthcare, we know that the commitment and dedication of public health and our physician partners will not change. We're still working together to keep our community healthy. On the other side of this postcard you can learn more about how we can support you with your youngest patients and their families through [a new coordinated referral form](#) and [our home visiting program](#). We're also hosting our [Current Health Issues seminar](#) for Health Professionals on Wednesday, October 9 on Immunization and STIs and a physician CME on March 24, 2020 discussing opioids, vaping and cannabis (more details to come).

Thanks for all you do to keep Halton healthy!



**Dr. Hamidah Meghani**  
Medical Officer of Health, Halton Region

# What's new for Halton physicians?



## Healthy Babies Healthy Children (HBHC) home visiting program

If you care for families with children under the age of six or expecting a new child, who may need extra support, Ontario's HBHC program can help by providing home visits to optimize prenatal health, child development and parenting outcomes, while reducing health inequities. Public health nurses and trained family visitors can support your patients by providing services and supports to enhance health. To refer a family to HBHC call 311 or visit our [Pregnancy and Postpartum Programs and Support page](#) at [halton.ca](#).



## New coordinated referral form for healthcare providers

We've made it easier for you to refer families to programs in Halton Region, with [a new coordinated referral form](#). Fill it out, fax it to the number on the form and the identified program will contact your patient. Visit our [Preschool Age Children page](#) at [halton.ca](#) for a user-friendly, electronic copy.



## Reminder about measles and travelling infants

The measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine is publicly-funded for infants six months of age and older who will be travelling to countries where measles is a concern. Two additional MMR doses are still required over one year of age at appropriate intervals to meet the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* requirements and ensure long-lasting immunity to measles.

**SAVE THE DATE!** Join us on the evening of Tuesday, March 24, 2020 for a Continuing Medical Education event for Halton physicians. Learn about opioids, vaping and cannabis in Halton and how you can support your patients. Registration info to follow.

