



## Message from the Medical Officer of Health

For many people, autumn is a time for new beginnings, for others it's about settling back into a routine and for the Halton Region Health Department it's a little bit of both. To help support families, we want to keep you informed about our new online prenatal education program and about the 2018-19 immunization reporting program. As we continue to work together to keep our community healthy, I hope you'll take a few minutes to either complete an online survey or take part in a focus group to tell us how we can better support you and your practice. Thank you for all you do and I wish you a happy and healthy autumn.



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

# What's new for Halton physicians?



## Updates to the Halton Online Prenatal Education Program

We have a new online prenatal program where expectant and new parents can learn about healthy pregnancy, labour and birth, breastfeeding and newborn care right from their computer or mobile device. If your patients require extra in-person support during pregnancy or postpartum, they can register for the Healthy Babies Healthy Children and the Halton Prenatal Nutrition Programs through [halton.ca](http://halton.ca) or by calling 311.



## Immunization update for 2018-19 school year

Working together, we can ensure children are compliant with the provincial *Immunization of School Pupils Act* (ISPA) and avoid school suspension. This year, we will be notifying **all high school** (born between 2001-2004) **and grade 3 students** (born in 2010) to update their records with the Health Department to avoid school suspension in early 2019. Please see the attached flyer for more details, including timing of the suspension period and what physicians can expect.



## Help us help you

To better support physicians in keeping the community healthy, **the Halton Region Health Department wants to hear from you** about how we can better meet your needs. Our Physician Engagement program is conducting short focus groups, as well as an online survey to hear from you. If you haven't received an email survey or would like to participate in a focus group, please email [doctors@halton.ca](mailto:doctors@halton.ca)



Visit [halton.ca/physicianupdates](http://halton.ca/physicianupdates) to sign up for important health updates emailed to you from the Health Department.

