



**HEALTH
DEPARTMENT**
of Northwest Michigan



1-800-432-4121
nwhealth.org

7th Grade Immunization Update

7th grade students must show proof of having had the required childhood immunizations for Michigan school settings by the first day of school. Parents wishing to waive immunizations for religious or philosophical reasons must make an appointment at the local health department for waiver education. Students with true medical contraindications to immunizations must see their primary care provider to receive a *Medical Contraindication Waiver Form*.

The State of Michigan requires children to be adequately immunized to attend school. Children entering 7th grade who are 11 years old and/or older are required to have the following:

Two doses of varicella (Var) vaccine or history of chickenpox disease

- Before the vaccine, about 100 people died each year as a result of chickenpox in the United States.
- Getting the recommended doses of chickenpox vaccine greatly reduces your chance of getting chickenpox.
- **Anyone who is not fully vaccinated and never had chickenpox should receive the recommended doses of chickenpox vaccine.**

One dose of meningococcal (MCV4) vaccine

- Meningitis is spread through close contact: coughing, kissing and sharing food or drinks.
- Meningococcal vaccine can protect children and teens.
- **One dose at ages 11-12 years and a booster dose at age 16 years.**

One dose of tetanus/diphtheria/acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine

- Tdap vaccine protects against whooping cough along with diphtheria and tetanus. This vaccine is very effective in preventing all 3 diseases.
- Tdap vaccine is usually given at the 11-12 year old visit.

Two doses of measles/mumps/rubella (MMR) Vaccine

- MMR vaccine can prevent measles, mumps, and rubella. High rates of vaccination have made these diseases much less common in the U.S.
- **Anyone who is not fully vaccinated should receive the recommended doses of MMR vaccine.**

Three doses of hepatitis B vaccine

- Hepatitis B is a liver disease that can cause mild illness lasting a few weeks, or it can lead to a serious lifelong illness. Hepatitis B vaccine can prevent Hepatitis B.
- **Children and adolescents who have not yet gotten the vaccine should receive the recommended three doses of Hepatitis B vaccine.**

Three to four doses of polio vaccine (depending on age at time of vaccination)

- Polio is a disabling disease which can infect a person's spinal cord, leading to paralysis. Polio vaccine can prevent Polio.
- Anyone who is not fully vaccinated should receive the recommended doses of Polio vaccine. (Only three doses are needed if dose three was given at or after four years of age).

***Two doses of Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine are recommended for all girls and boys**

- This vaccine is very effective against several types of HPV, including HPV-related cancers, and works best if given **before** exposure to HPV.
- **Vaccination against HPV is usually started at 11-12 years of age. (This vaccine is available for ages 9 years old through 26 years old).**

** vaccines are recommended, but not required for school entry.*

Avoid the last minute rush to have your child vaccinated before they enter 7th Grade! Call to make your child's vaccine appointment today. Contact your child's primary care provider or the Health Department of Northwest Michigan; immunization records are available as well.

No health insurance? Assistance in applying for free or low cost health insurance is available by calling the Health Department at **1-800-432-4121**. No child is denied immunizations due to an inability to pay. Contact your child's primary care provider or your local health department if you have any questions or would like to schedule an appointment.