

Publicly Funded Immunization Updates

To: Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Nurses, and Midwives
Hospital Infection Control Departments and Emergency Departments

A few updates and reminders regarding immunizations.

For routine vaccination programs, see the [Publicly Funded Immunization Schedule For Ontario June 2022 \(French\)](#) and attached form.

4-6 year Old Boosters

It is now recommended that the 4-6 year boosters (Tdap-IPV and MMRV) **be given at age 4**. This recommendation supports children being ready for entry to school and decreases vaccine preventable diseases in school settings. The province has seen an increase in measles cases across Ontario.

Please see updates on publicly funded immunization program extensions [Guidance for Routine & Catch-Up Immunization Services \(French\)](#).

Herpes Zoster:

The Shingrix vaccine is available to those 65 to 70 years of age. Note: 2 dose series should be completed prior to 71st birthday.

HB and HPV-19:

Available for all students in grades 7 to 12. Some individuals may have missed their opportunity to receive the recommended vaccines during the COVID-19 pandemic. The table below indicates the applicable vaccines, eligible cohorts, and timing for individuals to receive missed vaccine doses.

Vaccine	Current eligibility	Impacted cohort	Remains eligible for missed doses until	Special considerations
Hep B (Recombivax or Engerix)	Grades 7 to 8 ^a	Grade 9 students in the 2020/21, 2021/22, and 2022/23 school years (born in 2006 ^b , 2007, or 2008)	Aug 31, 2023 (must complete series)	These vaccines are typically provided through school-based clinics; however, if health care providers have eligible patients requesting a vaccine, contact the local health unit for a special release access to administer the vaccine(s) directly.
HPV-9 (Gardasil 9)	Grades 7 to 12	Students who graduated in the 2019/20 ^c , 2020/21 ^c , and 2021/22 school years (born in 2002, 2003, or 2004) ^d	Aug 31, 2023 (must complete series)	
Men-C-ACYW135 (Nimenrix)	Grades 7 to 12 and those born in or after 1997	N/A	Remains eligible until vaccine is received	

HEALTHCARE PROVIDER ALERT

June 19, 2023



If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your local Timiskaming Health Unit:

Monday to Friday
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

New Liskeard

Tel: (705) 647-4305
Toll Free: (866) 747-4305
Fax: (705) 647-5779

Kirkland Lake

Tel: (705) 567-9355
Toll Free: (866) 967-9355
Fax: (705) 567-5476

After-Hours or Weekend
On-Call Number
(705) 647-3033

www.timiskaminghu.com

Tdap:

Available to those ≥ 4 years of age, pregnant persons for every pregnancy, regardless of Tdap immunization history, and adults ≥ 18 years of age (generally given 10 years after the adolescent Tdap dose). If a Tdap booster dose is required earlier, they are eligible to receive 1 dose of Tdap regardless of the interval since the last dose of tetanus- or diphtheria- containing vaccine. **Once the adult Tdap is given, the next publicly funded tetanus would be a Td.** We should be moving to see more Td given.

Tuberculosis:

TB tests required for work should be seen by the occupational health nurse at each facility.

Publicly Funded Tubersol Interim Eligibility Criteria per MOH Memo:

- Contacts of cases of active Tuberculosis (depending on timing of initial test, a negative initial test immediately after exposure should be retested > 8 weeks later).
- Tests deemed to be “medically necessary” (can be ordered as 1 step or 2 step) by the client’s physician or nurse practitioner, based on the level of risk as identified in the [Canadian Tuberculosis Standards](#), 8th edition.
- The two-step TST needs to be done only once in a person’s lifetime if properly performed and documented.
- Clients less than 65 years who are entering long-term care facilities. Note: Screening via TST is not recommended for clients over the age of 65.
- When required by an educational institution for admission or continuation in a day care or pre-school program, or a program of study in a school, community college, university, or other educational institution.

Payment required for:

- Testing for Retirement Home/LTCH admission, employment, volunteering, and travel.

Stem cell clients: As these clients need to restart their full immunization series, THU is willing to provide this full vaccination service, if desired.

Monkey pox and other high-risk vaccines: A reminder that health care partners can order publicly funded high-risk vaccines through THU. If you have questions or concerns regarding high-risk vaccinations, please call THU.