

IMMUNIZATIONS IN CHILD CARE

Licenced child care operators in Ontario are responsible for keeping a record of immunization on file for all children enrolled in their care. Ontario Health Units are responsible for assessing the immunization status of children in child care centres to ensure they are up-to-date with their immunizations, or have a valid exemption. Parents are responsible for following the Publicly Funded Immunization Schedule for Ontario, maintaining a current copy of their children's records and sharing it with their Child Care Provider. Your child care operator works with the Timiskaming Health Unit to ensure your record is regularly assessed and up-to-date.

WHAT DO PARENTS NEED TO DO?

On admission, provide your child care operator with a current copy of your child's immunization record. You will be advised if any immunizations are needed to bring your child up-to-date for admission or what paperwork is required if you need an exemption.

Ongoing - Follow the Ontario Immunization Schedule

Be sure your child receives vaccinations as per the Ontario schedule. These vaccines are free and required at various times over the life course. For information on the routine schedule, visit <u>Vaccine and Immunization</u> or <u>Ontario's Routine Immunization Schedule</u> or contact your Health Care Provider.

Whenever your child is immunized, provide your child care operator with the updated immunization information.

Health care providers do not provide immunization information to your child care operator. When your child receives immunizations, be sure to ask for an updated recorded from the Health Care Provider so you can provide this to your child care operator.

If your child's immunization record on file with the child care operator is not kept up to date, you will receive a notice on what is missing and what steps to take.

LOOKING FOR A TOOL TO HELP YOU KEEP TRACK?

There is an online tool to help parents to keep track of their child's immunization record. With this tool, you can view current, overdue and upcoming immunizations, like a 'Yellow Card', only better. You can use this resource to provide a copy of your child's immunization record to your child care operator. You will need your child's Health Card Number or Ontario Immunization ID (OIID). To access the tool, visit www.timiskaminghu.com (Search - Yellow Card).

Vaccination is the best way to protect children from serious diseases.

Thank you for your assistance in updating your child's immunization record and protecting the health of our children.