

Sept 9, 2008

New Immunization Clinics to be offered

During this upcoming school year, a new immunization program will be offered as part of the New Brunswick Routine Immunization Schedule for school-aged children. Beginning in September, Miramichi Public Health will begin to offer the HPV vaccine to grade 7 girls and for this year only, grade 8 girls will also be offered the vaccine. Miramichi Public Health nurses will be offering educational sessions about the HPV vaccine for parents and girls in these grades. Dr. Michael Dickinson, pediatrician will also provide an educational session about the new vaccine. Parents will be informed of the date, time and location of these sessions.

The HPV vaccine has been shown to be effective in preventing the strains of human papillomavirus (types 16 and 18) that are responsible for up to 70% of all cervical cancer cases in Canada.

The following table summarizes the Routine New Brunswick Immunization Schedule for school-aged children for the upcoming school year. Prior to the immunization clinics, parents will receive a letter explaining the immunizations and a consent form that will be required to be returned to their home room teacher. Students who do not receive the vaccine during a school-based clinic can contact Public Health at 778-6102 to make arrangements to have the immunization.

For further information about these vaccinations, please contact Public Health at 778-6102.

New Brunswick School-age Immunization for the 2008-2009 School Year		
Grade	Product	Vaccine composition
6*	Boostrix [®] or Adacel [®]	Tetanus, diphtheria and acellular pertussis
7 (girls only)	Gardasil [®]	Quadrivalent HPV (types 6, 11, 16 & 18)
8 (girls only)	Gardasil [®]	Quadrivalent HPV (types 6, 11, 16 & 18)
9	Boostrix [®] or Adacel [®]	Tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis
9	Menactra [®]	Meningococcal conjugate – ACYW-135
12	MMR II [®]	Measles, mumps and rubella
*2008-09 is the final year of a 3 year catch-up to provide acellular pertussis containing vaccine to all middle school aged children where whooping cough had been continuing to circulate		

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