



June 18, 2018

Reporting Requirements for Immunizations

Changes to the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* requiring physicians and nurses to report childhood vaccinations to local health units will come into effect on July 1, 2018.

Toronto Public Health understands that many doctors and nurses will be unable to report immunizations directly to public health as of July 1st. There will be no punitive measures for those who are unable to report due to logistic or time constraints.

Toronto Public Health recommends:

- 1. **Health care providers advocate for seamless EMR reporting** as the main means for reporting immunizations to public health.
- 2. Continue to provide yellow card / records of immunization to your patients.

 Encourage parents and guardian to report their child's vaccinations directly to Toronto Public Health online at: toronto.ca/studentvaccines.
- 3. Watch for details regarding the ICON HCP online tool. This online tool will allow providers with an eHealth Ontario ONE-ID log in to view their patients' immunization information from Ontario's Digital Health Immunization Repository (DHIR) and submit immunization data directly to Public Health Units.

TPH has been advocating for seamless EMR reporting as the means for reporting immunizations to local health units, and will continue to do so.

In April 2017, TPH provided a <u>written submission</u> to the Standing Committee which recommended mandatory health care provider reporting of immunizations should only come into effect when:

- There is full interoperability of Electronic Medical Record (EMR) systems with Panorama; and
- Immunization records can be transferred seamlessly from the health care providers' EMR systems to Panorama.

Interim solutions to provide immunization records to public health were not recommended by Toronto Public Health.

Note: OntarioMD is working actively with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care on an EMR integration initiative. <u>More information</u>.

