

Grades 7 and 8 Student Immunization Program

Every year, Toronto Public Health provides free vaccination for Grade 7/8 students in their schools. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, vaccines will not be provided in schools this year. Community clinics for student-based vaccinations will begin in January 2021.

Some physicians may provide school-based vaccinations to their patients

Physicians who wish to offer these vaccines to Grade 7/8 students in their practice can order the free vaccines directly from TPH at toronto.ca/ordervaccines. Students currently in Grade 7 require the full vaccination series' and students in Grade 8 will need to complete their 2nd dose in the series' if they received their first dose in school. Vaccines can be ordered per patient or in batches to avoid missed opportunities. NOTE: there is no expectation/requirement that physicians provide these vaccinations to their patients.

Delayed start of vaccination series may require a 3-dose series.

By delaying vaccination, the students may age up, requiring a 3-dose series rather than 2-doses, making it more difficult to complete their vaccine series. Once the student graduates from high school, they lose their eligibility for the free vaccines and will have to pay out of pocket. HPV9 vaccine can cost as much as \$200 /dose.

No need to restart the series if vaccination schedule is interrupted

If the vaccine schedule is interrupted, the vaccine series does not need to be restarted. Minimum intervals (see tables below) need to be maintained. The [Canadian Immunization Guide](#) recommends that HPV vaccine series should be initiated, even if the series may not be completed according to schedule.

Vaccination Schedule

Meningococcal conjugated quadrivalent vaccine is only one dose, regardless of age. This is a different vaccine from the meningococcal conjugated-C given to infants at one year of age.

HPV-9 Vaccination Schedule by Age Group

Student's age when first dose is given	Vaccine series	Spacing interval between doses
9 to 14 years	2-doses	0 and 6 months
15 years and older or immunocompromised	3-doses	0, 2 and 6 months

Hepatitis B Vaccination Schedule by Age Group

Student's age when first dose is given	Recombivax HB®		Engerix® -B	
	mL	Schedule in months	mL	Schedule in months
11 to 15 years	1.0	0, 6	1.0	0, 6
11 to 19 years	0.5	0, 1, 6	0.5	0, 1, 6 or 0, 1, 2, 12

For a more comprehensive dosing schedule, see [CIG for hepatitis B vaccine](#)

Vaccination History/ Record

Health care providers can request a copy of the student's immunization from Toronto Public Health by sending a request by **fax 416-338-2028**. Parents can view their child's immunization online at toronto.ca/studentvaccines. This record will include any vaccines given by public health, or vaccines that the parent has reported to public health. Parents can update their child's vaccination record online if they received school-based vaccines from their doctor.

Background Information

Human papillomavirus (HPV) infections are the most common sexually transmitted infections. Most HPV infections occur without symptoms and resolve without treatment. If not immunized, it is estimated that 75% of sexually active Canadians will have a human papillomavirus infection at some point in their lives. HPV immunization have been shown to significantly reduce cervical and anogenital cancer rates.

Hepatitis B (HB) can be transmitted via sexual activity, but also from contaminated equipment in personal care settings (tattoo) and medical/dental procedures. A person with acute HB can become a chronic HB carrier and remain infectious. Chronic infection may lead to serious liver disease. Routine HB immunization is recommended for all children. Hepatitis B immunization for the prevention of liver cancer.

Meningococcal disease is very rare, however once infected, the disease can progress quickly and with serious consequences. Ten percent of the population carry this bacteria in their nose or throat without becoming ill. The bacteria is spread through close contact, such as in kissing or sharing water bottles. The meningococcal vaccine protects against four types of meningococcal bacteria, which is a serious and sometimes fatal disease. Vaccine effectiveness decreases over time.

Health Assessment prior to Immunization

vaccines	HPV-9	HB	Men4
dose	0.5mL	2-doses: 1.0mL 3-doses: 0.5mL	0.5mL
route	IM to deltoid	IM to deltoid	IM to deltoid
contraindications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ allergy to previous vaccine ○ allergy to yeast ○ pregnant ○ evolving neurological disorder 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ allergy to previous vaccine ○ allergy to yeast ○ Recombivax vial stopper contains latex ○ multi-dose vial contains thimerosal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ reaction to previous diphtheria / tetanus toxoid vaccine ○ pregnant ○ evolving neurological disorder
precautions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ defer with febrile illness ○ bleeding disorder ○ immunocompromised 	Same precautions	Same precautions
common side effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ pain, swelling redness at injection site ○ dizziness, fever, headache ○ hives, nausea, vomiting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ pain, swelling redness at injection site ○ headache, fever ○ dizziness, feeling faint 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ pain, swelling redness at injection site ○ headache ○ feeling tired or unwell