
February 2024

AN IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL YORK REGION FAMILIES ABOUT IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION

For many families, March break is a time for travel and getting together with family and friends. Whether staying home or planning a vacation outside of Canada, York Region Public Health offers this reminder about the importance of staying up-to-date and healthy with immunizations.

Vaccines required to attend school in Ontario

If your child needs vaccines, such as those [required by law to attend school in Ontario](#), York Region Public Health provides free [student catch-up immunizations](#) to all eligible students in **JK to Grade 12** by appointment only. You may also contact your health care professional or visit a walk-in medical clinic to receive any required or recommended publicly funded vaccines.

York Region Public Health student immunization clinics offer routine childhood immunizations to protect against the following diseases: Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Polio, Meningococcal Disease, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, and Varicella (chickenpox). Also, York Region Public Health is offering immunizations against Hepatitis B, Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and Meningococcal ACYW-135 to any eligible student in Grades 7 to 12 who may have missed getting these vaccines at one of our school-based vaccine clinics.

Vaccines for travel

Right now, **measles** outbreaks are occurring in many regions of the world, including the United States. In York Region, measles is less common because of high vaccination rates. Still, cases can occur after travelling outside of Canada and most of the recent measles cases in Ontario have been linked to international travel. The [Public Health Agency of Canada](#) recommends that children get their second dose of the Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) vaccine earlier than the recommended age of 4 to 6 years if they travel outside of Canada.

It is recommended that families consult with a health care professional or visit a travel health clinic at **least six weeks before travelling** to review their vaccination history and ensure they are up-to-date with required vaccines before travelling. Vaccine requirements and recommendations vary by country.

Report your child's vaccination

Every time your child gets vaccinated, you need to report it to York Region Public Health to ensure your child is protected and that an accurate immunization record is maintained. **Doctors do not report vaccinations to Public Health.** You can report and view your child's vaccinations [online](#). Additional information is available on our [website](#).

York Region Public Health wishes everyone a safe and enjoyable March Break