

## Important Information

# Youth Immunization Catch-ups



Immunizations (also called vaccinations) are a safe and effective way to stay healthy and help prevent many serious diseases. Manitoba Health and Seniors Care holds the immunization records of every Manitoban, and we routinely follow up with people to remind them if they have missed a recommended immunization.

Our records show that a youth in your household may be due or overdue for some doses of vaccines, as recommended by Manitoba's routine immunization schedule. We are attaching a copy of their immunization record, which is part of the provincial immunization registry.\*

Four routine immunizations are usually offered in an annual school-based program, but the program has been interrupted over the last two years due to COVID-19. The four routine immunizations include:

- human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine
- hepatitis B vaccine
- meningococcal conjugate quadrivalent vaccine
- tetanus, diphtheria and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine **OR** the tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis and polio (Tdap-IPV) vaccine

This year, the province is offering a youth catch-up program to help make it easier to get these immunizations. Many of the vaccines noted above can be given at the same time.

The youth in your household may also be eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. It is important to note that the COVID-19 vaccine cannot be given at the same time as the vaccines mentioned above. The COVID-19 vaccine has to be given separately.

The first step is to review the attached information, including the immunization record. If there are any errors or missing records, please send your inquiry to <https://forms.gov.mb.ca/covid-immunization-record-request/index.html> or contact the vaccine call centre at **1-844-626-8222** to update our records.

There are two ways to make an appointment:

- at a Manitoba vaccine site located across the province by booking online at [www.manitoba.ca/covid19/vaccine/clinics.html](http://www.manitoba.ca/covid19/vaccine/clinics.html) or by calling **1-844-626-8222**.
  - o If the youth has not had a COVID-19 vaccine yet, you can make two separate appointments. The amount of time between appointments will depend on which vaccine(s) you get first, but will be either 14 or 28 days apart. Please note that the online booking system will only allow you to book one appointment at a time. If you wish to book a second appointment, you can call the vaccine call centre and book the second appointment through them.
- by contacting your primary care provider to make an appointment to be immunized.
  - o Your primary care provider may also provide any other missed vaccines not typically offered in school that are not being offered at the Manitoba vaccine sites, like the varicella (chickenpox) vaccine.

These school immunizations are also being planned to be offered in schools starting late fall/early winter.

Please bring this letter, a signed/completed School Immunizations Consent Form and the immunization record to the appointment. A School Immunizations Consent Form will be available online at [protectmb.ca/school-immunizations](http://protectmb.ca/school-immunizations). Printed copies will also be available on site for those without access to a printer.

Thank you for protecting yourself, your family and your community by being immunized. You are contributing to a healthier Manitoba for all of us. More information about the youth catch-up program is available at [protectmb.ca/school-immunizations](http://protectmb.ca/school-immunizations).

Sincerely,

Dr. Joss Reimer  
Medical Lead, Manitoba's Vaccine Implementation Task Force

### \*Information about the provincial immunization registry

Information about the immunizations you or your child(ren) receive may be recorded in the provincial immunization registry. *The Personal Health Information Act* protects your information. You can have your immunization information hidden from view. For more information, please ask your immunizer when you go for your immunizations.