
From the Office of the Medical Health Officer

September 23, 2009

Dear Parents,

Please note that the National Advisory Committee for Immunizations is now recommending that an adolescent dose of meningococcal vaccine is needed, **even if your child had a Meningococcal C vaccine as an infant or after one year of age**. This adolescent dose (given after 10 years of age) will help to make sure that your child is protected as they enter the peak years of meningococcal disease beyond infancy, typically ages 15-24 years. In BC, this adolescent dose will be given to students in Grade 6.

We are currently experiencing a high volume of calls related to immunization histories.

Please note that the vaccines offered for this year's grade 6 students (Hepatitis B, Meningococcal C, Varicella (chicken pox), and HPV) have not previously been part of the routine schedule for children born in 1998. Therefore, most children have not received these vaccines unless you purchased them through your family doctor, travel clinic, or other health clinic.

Please contact your school nurse if you have any questions.

Yours truly,



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