

Hepatitis B Vaccine

What is the Hep B virus?

Hep B virus is spread by close contact with infected body fluids or sharing items like toothbrushes, razors, or nail clippers. 50% of adults and 90% of children don't know they are infected because they don't have symptoms.

Hep B cannot be cured, causes liver swelling or long-term damage, and is one of the most common causes of liver cancer.

What are the benefits of having the Hep B vaccine?

Hep B can be prevented 95% to 100% of the time when the vaccine series is complete. The best response is seen in children vaccinated between age 5-15 years.

For more information about Hep B and the vaccine, visit durham.ca/factsabout.

What if my child started or finished a Hep B vaccine series before grade 7?

Some children start or finish a Hep B containing vaccine series before grade 7. Please add your child's immunization history to the consent form. If you select yes and consent to your child receiving the Hep B vaccine, the nurse will determine if an additional dose is required for complete protection.



HPV-9 Vaccine

What is the Human Papillomavirus?

HPV is a common virus that spreads by intimate skin-to-skin contact with an infected person. HPV can cause genital warts, precancerous lesions and cancers of the cervix, genitals, anus, head and neck. It can even be transmitted from an infected mother to baby during birth.



If not immunized, it is estimated that 75% of Canadians will have an HPV infection at some time.

What are the benefits of having the HPV-9 vaccine?

HPV vaccines are most effective when given before a person is sexually active. It also creates a higher immune response when given to preteens versus older teens/adults. More than 99% of people who receive the vaccine develop antibodies to the nine strains it targets, preventing approximately:

- 70% of anogenital cancers
- 60% of high-risk precancerous cervical lesions
- 90% of genital warts

For more information about HPV and the vaccine, visit durham.ca/factsabout.

Need More Information?

- Scan the QR code or visit durham.ca/immunize
- Visit ontario.ca/vaccines
- Call our Durham Health Connection Line (DHCL) at 905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729
- Contact your health care provider



Complete the **Client Experience Survey** to share your thoughts about our clinics: durham.ca/HealthSurvey

Vaccinate... then UPDATE



Durham Health Connection Line
905-666-6242 or 1-800-841-2729
Fax: 905-666-6216
Dial 311 (within regional limits)
durham.ca/immunize



If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.

June 26

School Immunization Clinics

Fact Sheet



**IMPORTANT INFORMATION
FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS**

School Immunization Clinics

What vaccines are offered at school?

Health Department nurses **will be at your school** to offer grade 7 and 8 students the following vaccines for FREE:

- **Meningococcal Quadrivalent Conjugate (Men-C-ACYW-135)** 1 dose is mandatory under the Immunization of School Pupils Act
- **Human Papillomavirus (HPV-9)** 2 doses given 6 months apart
- **Hepatitis B (Hep B)** 2 doses given 6 months apart

These vaccines are not routinely offered through your health care provider.

How to be prepared for clinic?

Please review this facts sheet and return the completed consent form to the school to inform which vaccines are to be offered to your child.

On day of clinic please ensure your child:

- Eats breakfast/lunch before their immunization(s)
- Brings a lunch to school (instead of going home)
- Wears a short or loose sleeved shirt

Please return the vaccine consent form confirming your choice to accept or decline vaccines.

For your school clinic dates visit, durham.ca/SchoolClinicDates or call Durham Health Connection Line at 905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729.



General Vaccine Information

How do the vaccines work?

Vaccines help your body learn how to protect itself from disease. They safely teach your immune system to recognize and fight viruses or bacteria, so you're protected if you're ever exposed.

Vaccines used in Canada are carefully tested and approved by Health Canada and are continuously monitored to ensure they are safe.

Is it safe for my child to get more than one vaccine at a time?

Some vaccines are given together to protect against several diseases at once. Your child's immune system is amazing! It can safely handle more than one vaccine at a time.

At the clinic, we sometimes give more than one vaccine at the same visit, using separate needles and different areas on the arm. These vaccines work just as well when given together and do not increase side effects.

Do the vaccines have side effects?

Your child can't get HPV, Hep B or meningococcal disease from the vaccines. Studies show that these vaccines are safe, and side effects are usually mild and last a short time. The most common side effects are:

- Irritability, headache, fatigue, low-grade fever
- Injection site reactions (redness/pain/swelling)

To relieve pain, swelling, and/or a mild fever you can:

- Place a cold cloth where the needle was given
- Give acetaminophen (e.g., Tylenol™)

The most common potential allergens are:

- **Hep B:** yeast protein, thimerosal, latex (latex free Engerix B® is available as needed)
- **Men-C-ACYW-135:** diphtheria or tetanus toxoid carrier protein
- **HPV-9:** yeast protein, Polysorbate 80

Any part of a vaccine may cause an allergy. Please speak with your health care provider if you have any questions.



MEN-C-ACYW-135 Vaccine

What is meningococcal disease (e.g., meningitis)?

Meningococcal bacteria are found in a person's nose and throat and easily spread by close direct contact like kissing, coughing, or sharing items like food, drinks or lip gloss. Without treatment, the bacteria can cause swelling of the brain and spinal cord (meningitis), a blood infection, disability, or death.

What are the benefits of having the Men-C-ACYW-135 vaccine?

The Men-C-ACYW-135 vaccine is about 80-85% effective, it provides strong protection in the first few years after vaccination. Protection can decrease over time.

For more information about meningitis and the vaccines, visit durham.ca/factsabout.

What's the difference between meningococcal vaccines?

1 dose of meningococcal quadrivalent conjugate (Men-C-ACYW-135) vaccine is required in grade 7 and it protects against 4 types of meningococcal bacteria. Men-C-ACYW-135 is different from the meningococcal C conjugate vaccine (Men-C-C) (e.g., Menjugate® or NeisVac-C®) which protects against 1 type of bacteria and is given after age 1.

What if my child already received the Men-C-ACYW-135 vaccine?

If one dose of Men-C-ACYW-135 vaccine was already given after 1 year of age, another is not required. However, it is recommended that grade 7 students get a booster dose if it has been more than 5 years since the last dose.