

IN THIS ISSUE:

- **National Immunization Awareness Week**
- **HPV Community Clinics**
- **Winter-Spring 2008 Immunization Record Screening Update**

FROM:

David L. Mowat, MBChB MPH FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health

National Immunization Awareness Week

Are you up-to-date? Vaccinate!

Peel Public Health is celebrating National Immunization Awareness Week: April 20-26, 2008. Immunization is a lifelong process of preventing infection and disease.

What can Peel physicians do?

- Encourage adults to check their immunization records.
- Ensure that adults receive a tetanus and diphtheria (Td) booster every 10 years.
- Remind parents to report school-aged immunizations to Peel Public Health each time a vaccination is received.

HPV Community Clinics

Peel Public Health will be offering HPV community clinics for female students who were in grade 8 during the 2007/2008 school year and may have missed a dose of this vaccine. The community clinic schedule will be confirmed and communicated in an upcoming Health Professional's Update.

Since the fall of 2007, Peel Public Health has been administering the voluntary, publicly-funded HPV immunization program. The program offers the HPV vaccine to grade 8 female students through school-based immunization clinics.

The HPV vaccine is given in a 3 dose series. There is no catch-up program, and the 'eligibility in perpetuity' clause does not apply to this vaccine.

Grade 8 female students, who have not completed the three dose HPV series through the school-based program or community clinics, must purchase the vaccine by prescription through a local pharmacy and have it administered by a physician.

Winter-Spring 2008 Immunization Record Screening Update

- In February 2008, Peel Public Health implemented the second phase of immunization records screening. The immunization records at 65 schools in the Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board are currently under review. Screening will continue until June 2008.
- We appreciate your continued support in ensuring that students receive all of the required vaccinations.

When you immunize school-aged children, please remind parents to contact Peel Public Health to update their children's records.

Questions?

Contact us. We are pleased to answer questions regarding immunization promotional items, the HPV publicly-funded program or the immunization screening process. Call Peel Public Health at 905-799-7700 or visit www.immunizepeel.ca.