

<p>IN THIS ISSUE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEW: <i>REVISED</i> Publicly Funded Immunization Schedules for Ontario – January 2009 	<p>FROM: David L. Mowat, MBChB MPH FRCPC Medical Officer of Health</p>
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NEW: *REVISED* Publicly Funded Immunization Schedules for Ontario – January 2009

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHTLC) has released the *Publicly Funded Immunization Schedules for Ontario - January 2009*. Changes relative to the 2005 version include:

- a new schedule for unimmunized adults,
- the addition of Menactra® for high risk eligibility,
- the addition of HPV vaccine,
- changes to the high risk schedules, and
- a change to the timing of the booster dose of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine.

The following table summarizes key changes from the 2005 immunization schedules:

REVISIONS

Vaccine	Schedule Change
Varicella Vaccine	<p>New high risk criteria include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. children and adolescents on chronic salicylic acid B. individuals with cystic fibrosis C. immunocompromised individuals, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • humoral, neutrophil, or complement deficiency diseases • asplenia • patients receiving inhaled or topical steroids • a subset of patients with acute lymphic leukemia (ALL) in remission, HIV infection and chronic inflammatory diseases • prior to solid organ transplantation (>6 weeks pre-transplant) • post bone marrow or stem cell transplantation <p>For details on these high risk groups, please refer to the Canadian Immunization Guidelines, 2006, page 331, and Guide Errata and Clarifications, March 2008. http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/cig-qci/</p>
Measles	Individuals are now considered immune if born prior to 1970.
Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine: (Pneumo®23, Pneumovax®)	Changes have been made to criteria for and timing of reimmunization, as described in Table 4 of the schedule. For timing, 1 reimmunization should be given after 5 years for those ≥11 years of age at initial immunization, and after 3 years for those ≤10 years of age at initial immunization.

ADDITIONS

Vaccine	Schedule Change
HPV Vaccine (Gardasil®)	HPV is publicly funded for female students in grade 8 and is offered through school-based programs. Students who access at least 1 dose in school can access publicly funded HPV vaccine for doses 2 and 3. These doses can be administered by a Family Physician or at a Public Health clinic, for up to one academic year after completion of Grade 8.
Meningococcal ACYW-135 Conjugate Vaccine (Menactra®)	This vaccine has been added for persons 2-55 years of age with high-risk conditions as specified in the schedule.
Meningococcal C Conjugate (Men-C) vaccine	Children immunized with Men-C vaccine before 1 year of age should receive a second dose of vaccine >1 year after the first dose for enhanced protection.
Tdap (Adacel®)	Tdap (Adacel®) plus IPV (Inactivated Polio Virus) can be given to children 7-10 years of age who missed their 4-6 year old booster dose of DTaP-IPV (Quadracel®). Tdap should be given to unimmunized children 7-17 years old for their primary series.
Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (Prevnar®)	The booster dose scheduled for administration at 15 months should be given at least <u>2 months</u> after primary series completion. In the 2005 schedule, the booster dose could be given <u>6-8 weeks</u> after completing the primary series. The high-risk eligibility criteria now includes children <5 years old attending child care centres and/or children less <5 years old of First Nations origin.
Pediacel®/Pentacel®	Pediacel® has replaced Pentacel® on the immunization schedule. Pediacel® comes in one ready-to-use vial; no reconstitution is necessary.
Schedules	Two new tables have been generated for unimmunized persons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule 3: Schedule for Unimmunized Children/Adolescents Aged 7-17 years • Schedule 4: Schedule for Adults Aged 18 Years and Older not Immunized in Childhood

Additional Information

New schedules along with an accompanying *Questions and Answers* document are being mailed by the MOHLTC to health professionals practicing within the Region of Peel. If you have not received your new schedule or have additional questions please visit:

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/immun/pdf/qa_immune.pdf
<http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/immun/pdf/schedule.pdf>

or call Peel Public Health at 905-799-7700.