



THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Office of School Health

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Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Immunization programs have been identified as one of the greatest health achievements of the 20th century. They are responsible for preventing many diseases, such as measles, rubella, tetanus, chicken pox, and polio. These diseases can cause serious illness and even death. New vaccines have recently been recommended that provide protection against other infections such as human papillomavirus and meningococcal meningitis. We would like you to be aware of all the vaccines that should be given to all adolescents.

The vaccines **required** for school entry are the following:

1. Hepatitis B,
2. Tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis (given as DTaP, DTP, Td or Tdap depending on the child's age),
3. IPV or OPV (polio),
4. MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella), and
6. Varicella (chicken pox).

In addition, the following 2 vaccines are **recommended for adolescents**:

1. Meningitis vaccine (MCV4): one dose starting at 11-12 years of age.
2. Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine: recommended for females ages 9-26, for the prevention of cervical cancer. This vaccine is given in three doses at 0, 2, and 6 months. It is most effective when given to girls in the youngest age group.

All these vaccines are available to enrollees at the school-based health clinic in your child's school. The school-based health clinic is an ideal place for adolescents to get their vaccines. It is convenient and can assure that all the needed doses will be received.

Additional vaccine information is attached and can be found at the following websites:

1. <http://www.cdc.gov/nip/>
2. <http://www.vaccineinformation.org>

Please contact your school-based health clinic if you have questions or would like more information.

Sincerely,

Roger Platt, MD
Director
NYC DOHMH/DOE- Office of School Health

Jane R. Zucker, MD, MSc
Assistant Commissioner
NYC DOHMH - Bureau of Immunization