

May 1, 2015

Attention: Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Walk-in Clinics, Hospitals – Administration, Emergency, Infection Control, Occupational Health;

**RE: HAPPY NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS
WEEK (April 25-May 2, 2015)!**

With National Immunization Awareness week upon us, the HKPRD Health Unit would like to take this opportunity to thank you for ensuring the continued health of all our residents through the provision of immunization. As you are aware, immunization is one of the safest, most effective public health measures we have for preventing many diseases. We would also like to take this opportunity to remind you of a **newly** introduced vaccine requirement for students attending school:

- Students born on or after January 1, 1997 and who are 12 years of age or older are **REQUIRED FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE** to receive one dose of Meningococcal Conjugate-ACYW-135 (Menactra). Please contact one of our Vaccine Preventable Disease Nurses if you require Menactra vaccine to ensure your patients who fall in this category are protected against Meningococcal disease.
- In addition to this new requirement, students between the ages of 14 to 17 years of age require a “teenage booster” of pertussis, tetanus and diphtheria (Adacel) in order to remain protected against these life-threatening diseases.

Please remind parents to provide record of both Meningococcal Conjugate-ACWY-135 and Adacel immunization to the Health Unit to ensure their child’s/children’s immunization records are up-to-date.

If you would like any further information please contact the Health Unit and ask to speak to a Vaccine Preventable Disease Nurse.

You can also access information regarding the 2015 National Immunization Awareness Week through the *Immunize Canada* at, www.immunize.cpha.ca

Haliburton
705-457-1391

Lindsay
705-324-3569

Port Hope
905-885-9100

After Hours
1-888-255-7839

