



TO THE PARENTS OF CHILDREN BEGINNING SECONDARY SCHOOL

Dear parents,

The Quebec vaccination program offers vaccines to all Quebec youths in Secondary III. In Nunavik, the same vaccines are offered to students who are beginning secondary school.

The following vaccines will be offered to your child at school:

VACCINE AGAINST DIPHTHERIA AND TETANUS

- one dose

**Note that for this vaccination, a combined vaccine against diphtheria and tetanus (Td vaccine) or a combined vaccine against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus (Tdap vaccine) can be used.*

Both vaccines are safe, even though the component against whooping cough is not necessary. Potential reactions after vaccination are the same for both vaccines.

Diphtheria and tetanus are diseases that can lead to serious complications and even death. The vaccine against diphtheria and tetanus protect against these two diseases with only one injection.

VACCINE AGAINST MENINGOCOCCAL SEROGROUPS A, C, W AND Y

- one dose

Meningococcus can cause serious infections such as meningitis (infection of the lining around the brain) and meningococemia (infection of the blood). The vaccine offered protects against four types of meningococcus.

VACCINE AGAINST HEPATITIS B

- one dose

Hepatitis B is a liver disease caused by a virus. Two doses of the vaccine against hepatitis B are necessary for solid protection. The first dose is normally administered before a child begins secondary school.

Vaccination is the best way to protect yourself against these diseases.

WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE REACTIONS TO THESE VACCINES?

The vaccines against diphtheria-tetanus (or diphtheria-tetanus-whooping cough), meningococcus and hepatitis B are safe.

Certain reactions are possible after vaccination, for example, pain or redness at the injection site. Most of the reactions after vaccination are harmless and do not last long.

There is a low risk of serious allergic reaction to each vaccine. This type of reaction generally occurs within minutes of vaccination. The nurse is trained to intervene immediately to deal with the allergic reaction.

To learn more about the possible reactions specific to each vaccine, consult our Web page:



UPDATE TO THE IMMUNIZATION RECORD

In the days preceding vaccination of your child, the CLSC nurse will check their immunization record to make sure your child has received all the doses of the vaccines recommended according to their age: diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis A and B, chickenpox, meningococcus and HPV. If some vaccine doses are lacking or if there is no proof of vaccination in your child's immunization record, the nurse will contact you to obtain your consent and complete your child's vaccination.

AUTHORIZATION FORMS

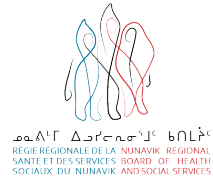
Attached you will find an authorization form for vaccination against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough, meningococcus and hepatitis B. **The authorization form must be completed and returned.** It is very important to fill out all the sections of the form, even if you refuse to have your child vaccinated or if they have already received one of the vaccines.

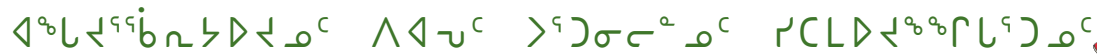
Due to the large number of vaccines recommended for this age group, vaccination may be carried out in two steps. In that case, it will not be necessary to fill out an additional consent form. The same document will be used for the two vaccination sessions.

If you have any concerns or questions, contact your CLSC/nursing station.

We thank you for your cooperation.

The CLSC nursing team





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