

Vaccination at school 2022-2023

School: Howard S. Billings High School

Dear parent,

As part of the *Quebec Immunization Program*, some vaccines will be offered to Secondary 3 students. In Quebec, the legal age for consent to health care is 14 years of age. Your child can therefore give consent to the vaccination themselves. This information is addressed to you in order to help your child make their decision.

Extract from the Civil Code of Quebec (1991, c. 64, a. 14): A minor 14 years of age and over, however, may consent alone to care required by the state of health.

The vaccination will take place on November 22 & 23, 2022.

Please make sure that your child has their vaccination record booklet and that they bring it to school on the day of the vaccination clinic.

Two vaccines for every student

The vaccine against diphtheria and tetanus is recommended for all students; tetanus and diphtheria are very serious diseases caused by bacteria. That's why it's important for teenagers to receive a vaccine that maintains their protection against these diseases.

The meningococcal C vaccine protects against severe illnesses like meningitis and blood poisoning. A dose is recommended for all adolescents.

Vaccination update (not COVID)

The nurse will analyse your child's vaccination booklet to make sure that they have received all vaccines recommended for their age against: diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), poliomyelitis, measles, rubella, mumps, varicella (chickenpox), hepatitis A, hepatitis B and human papilloma virus (HPV).

If some of these vaccinations are missing and so that your child is fully protected, the nurse can administer them at school to the students who give their consent. For example, if your child has not received their 2 doses against HPV since 4th grade of elementary school, they can receive for free a 1st dose of Gardasil 9[®] followed by a dose of Cervarix[®] 6 months later. This schedule provides a stronger immune response against HPV 16 and 18 than 2 doses of Gardasil 9[®].

Important: If your child has a chronic illness or a weakened immune system, they should inform the nurse. She can advise your child on additional vaccines that are indicated for their condition, as well as when to receive these vaccines.

Organization of vaccination at school

Every student will receive an appointment slip in the week before the vaccination clinic indicating the date and time at which they should present themselves at the school library. After meeting with a nurse, they will complete the consent form and sign in accordance to their decision.

We recommend wearing a short-sleeved shirt to facilitate the vaccination.

You can find more information on vaccination and vaccine preventable diseases at Government of Québec: <https://www.quebec.ca/sante/conseils-et-prevention/vaccination/vaccination-en-milieu-scolaire>

In case of absence, a second vaccination clinic will be held at school on May 25 or you can communicate with your CLSC for an appointment at 450-699-3333.

Thank you for your collaboration.

Mélanie Grégoire

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Meningococcal Serogroup C Conjugate Vaccine

Vaccination,
the best protection

August 2020

Vaccination is the best protection against meningococcal serogroup C infections and their complications. Meningitis (infection of the brain lining) and meningococemia (infection of the blood) are 2 serious infections caused by serogroup C meningococcus. There are different serogroups (or types) of meningococcus, among other serogroups A, B, C, W and Y. This vaccine protects against serogroup C.

Disease	Signs and symptoms	Possible complications
Serogroup C meningococcal infections	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High fever• Severe headache• Nausea and vomiting• General feeling of illness• Red marks or tiny pin-size hemorrhages or bruises on the skin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deafness• Scars• Permanent brain damage• Amputation of hands or feet• Death (5 to 15% of cases even after treatment)

The vaccine

Vaccination is the best protection against meningococcal serogroup C infections and their complications. This vaccine is usually given at the age of 18 months, and in Secondary 3.

Symptoms after vaccination

Some symptoms may be caused by the vaccine (e.g. redness at the injection site). Other problems may occur by chance and are not related to the vaccine (e.g. cold, gastro, headache).

Meningococcal serogroup C conjugate vaccine is safe. Most reactions are harmless and do not last long.

Frequency	Possible reactions to the vaccine	What to do
In most cases (more than 50% of people)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pain at the injection site	
Very often (less than 50% of people)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Redness and swelling at the injection site• Fever, drowsiness (sleepiness) and irritability, especially among children under 5• Headache, discomfort, muscle pain and joint pain, especially in people age 11 or older• Loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply a cold, damp compress at the injection site.• Use a medication for fever or discomfort if needed.• See a doctor if symptoms are severe.

We recommend that you stay at the clinic for at least 15 minutes after vaccination because allergic reactions may occur. If an allergic reaction occurs, the symptoms will appear a few minutes after the vaccination. The person giving the vaccine will be able to treat this reaction immediately.

For any questions, contact Info-Santé 811 or your doctor.

Td Vaccine

Combined tetanus and diphtheria vaccine

Vaccination,
the best protection

August 2020

Vaccination is the best protection against tetanus, diphtheria and their complications.

Diseases	Signs and symptoms	Possible complications
Diphtheria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Serious sore throat• High fever• Respiratory problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cardiac problems• Paralysis• Death (5 to 10% of cases)
Tetanus	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Muscle spasms in the jaw• Vocal chords spasms• Muscle spasms throughout the body	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Respiratory and cardiac problems• Death (10 to 80% of cases)

The vaccine

Vaccination is the best protection against tetanus, diphtheria and their complications. Td vaccine is given to people aged 4 and older who require protection against these 2 diseases. This vaccine is usually given in Secondary 3. In order to have the best possible protection, we recommend that you receive a booster dose of the Td vaccine at the age of 50 years. Under some circumstances, an unclean wound, for example, the booster dose is given before this date.

Symptoms after vaccination

Some symptoms may be caused by the vaccine (e.g. redness at the injection site). Other problems may occur by chance and are not related to the vaccine (e.g. cold, gastro, headache).

Td vaccine is safe. Most reactions are harmless and do not last long.

Frequency	Possible reactions to the vaccine	What to do
In most cases (more than 50% of people)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pain at the injection site• Fatigue, headache	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply a cold, damp compress at the injection site.• Use a medication for fever or discomfort if needed.• See a doctor if symptoms are severe.
Very often (less than 50% of people)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Redness and swelling at the injection site• Discomfort, dizziness, nausea, diarrhea, shivering	
Often (less than 10% of people)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fever• Loss of appetite, vomiting• Irritability, drowsiness (sleepiness)• Skin rash• Swollen lymph nodes	
Sometimes (less than 1% of people)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Small lump for a few weeks at the injection site	
Very rarely (less than 1 person in 10,000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sterile abscess at the injection site	

We recommend that you stay at the clinic for at least 15 minutes after vaccination because allergic reactions may occur. If an allergic reaction occurs, the symptoms will appear a few minutes after the vaccination. The person giving the vaccine will be able to treat this reaction immediately.

For any questions, contact Info-Santé 811 or your doctor.