



Perth District
Health Unit

Immunization Reminder to Parents of High School Aged Children

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday February 5, 2010

Perth County – The Perth District Health Unit in the month of February will be reviewing immunization records and providing the tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (whooping cough) shot (called Adacel) in all Perth County secondary schools.

The Health Unit will be providing these school clinics from February 17 to 25, 2010.

It is the parent and/or student's responsibility to provide proof of a current immunization record to the Health Unit as per the Immunization of School Pupils Act. If a student is up to date, and not in need of a tetanus booster dose, parents are asked to update the Health Unit's records by reporting the missing immunization information.

As a reminder to parents and guardians, there is no minimum age for giving consent. Your high school aged child can provide their own consent if they have the ability to understand the information about the vaccine and consequences of getting the disease if they do not get immunized. Registered nurses will review the vaccine information at the clinic and will assess each student's understanding. If any concerns are identified, the parent or guardian will be contacted. Otherwise, the student will receive the immunization.

Parents need to discuss immunization with their child. It is important that the student knows about previous immunizations, reactions to past vaccines, medications they are taking, allergies, as well as their parent's thoughts and views about immunization. More information about the Health Care Consent Act can be found at:

http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_96h02_e.htm.

Any student who does not provide a record of current immunizations to the Health Unit will be suspended from school as of April 21, 2010, as per the Immunization of School Pupils Act.

For more information, call Health Line at 519-271-7600 ext 267. Listowel area residents call 1-877-271-7348 ext 267. Or visit www.pdhu.on.ca.

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PERTH DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT

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