



**Healthcare Provider Webinar
Middlesex and London Region
May 22, 2024**

Welcome

Presenter:

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Middlesex-London Health Unit

May 22, 2024

Outline

- Respiratory Season Updates
- Polio vaccine recommendations for children previously immunized with oral polio vaccine (OPV)
- Vaccine Reminders
- Vaccine Ordering Information
- Vaccine Returns
- Information about Extreme Heat and Heat Related Illnesses
- New/Updated Resources
- Newsletter and Webinar Schedule



Respiratory Season Updates

Respiratory Transmission Risk Assessment

Middlesex-London region is in a Non-High Risk Period for Respiratory Illness

Indicator	Status
▲	
1. New respiratory outbreaks in health care facilities	Low
2. Respiratory hospitalizations	Low
3a. % positivity for COVID-19	Low
3b. % positivity for influenza	Low
4. Wastewater surveillance trend of COVID-19	High



Polio vaccine recommendations for children previously immunized with oral polio vaccine (OPV)

Polio vaccine recommendations for children previously immunized with oral polio vaccine (OPV)

- OPV has not been used in Canada since 1996.
- In April 2016, the World Health Organization coordinated a global switch for countries who administer the oral polio vaccine, replacing the **trivalent** OPV with the **bivalent** OPV.
- For this reason, **healthcare providers should presume that children vaccinated internationally with documented dose(s) of OPV administered on or after April 1, 2016, received bOPV.**
- To ensure protection against all three poliovirus types, **these children should complete a polio vaccine series** with an inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) or an IPV-containing vaccine using an age-appropriate schedule with oral poliovirus vaccine (OPV).

Polio vaccine recommendations for children previously immunized with oral polio vaccine (OPV)

For patients **vaccinated internationally** (e.g., newcomers):

- Health care providers should review available immunization records.
- For any recorded doses of OPV administered **April 1, 2016, or later**, presume these doses are bivalent OPV (bOPV) (i.e., missing polio serotype 2) and consider these doses **invalid**.
- Based on this assessment, a student may require additional doses of polio vaccine (IPV) to meet the requirements under the *Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA)* and the *Child Care and Early Years Act (CCEYA)*.
- Immunize with an age-appropriate series of IPV or IPV-containing vaccine, which contains all three poliovirus types.

Polio vaccine recommendations for children previously immunized with oral polio vaccine (OPV)

Age Specific recommendations:

- For those under 7 years of age who are on a catch-up series or still receiving a DTaP-IPV-Hib primary series, continue to complete the series.
- For those 4-6 years old who already received a dose of Tdap-IPV, if another dose of polio is needed to meet the requirements, it can be given as IPV at least 6 months after their Tdap-IPV dose.
- For those due to receive their Tdap booster 10 years after their last dose (usually between the ages of 14-16yrs), check to see if they have invalid OPV doses in their past. If yes, and another dose is required, the Tdap booster can be given as Tdap-IPV instead.

Polio vaccine recommendations for children previously immunized with oral polio vaccine (OPV)

- MLHU will send letters to individuals under the age of 18 years who require more polio doses due to invalid OPV doses in their schedule.
- The notice will outline how many more doses they require, and what vaccine should be given.
- Inactivated poliovirus vaccine (IPV) can be ordered through MLHU as part of the regular vaccine order. IPV is packaged individually in separate boxes so it can be ordered in any quantity required.

Polio vaccine recommendations for children previously immunized with oral polio vaccine (OPV)

This is an opportunity to **review the complete immunization record** or status of your patients and offer vaccines per the [Publicly Funded Immunization Schedules for Ontario June 2022](#).

For more information:

- CMOH memorandum, [Immunization Recommendations for Children Previously Immunized with Oral Poliovirus Vaccine \(OPV\)](#)
- Ministry of Health [Q & A for Immunizers: Recommendations for Children Previously Immunized with Oral Poliovirus Vaccine](#)
- Public Health Ontario's [Summary of Immunization Recommendations for Children Previously Immunized with Oral Poliovirus Vaccine](#)



Vaccine Reminders

Vaccine Reminders

Please share with all staff who immunize within your office:

MMRV vaccine:

- This vaccine is publicly-funded for individuals between the ages of 4-12 years of age.
- If outside of this age range, MMR and Varicella vaccines need to be given separately.

Vaccine Reminders

Meningococcal C vaccine and Meningococcal ACYW-135 vaccine:

- Meningococcal C vaccine is publicly-funded at one year of age.
- If this vaccination is missed, one dose can be given until the individual has completed grade 6.
- All students become due to receive one dose of Meningococcal ACYW-135 vaccine when they begin grade 7 (typically given at school clinics).
- If they missed their previous dose of Meningococcal-C prior to this age, the requirement for Meningococcal-C ends, and they will only require the Meningococcal ACYW-135 dose.
- Therefore, there is no requirement for Meningococcal-C vaccine to be given to anyone once they have reached grade 7.

Vaccine Reminders

- Please provide your patients with a record of what vaccines they received in your office.
- You may want to order MLHU tear-off pads to make this easier for you.
- These are available when you order your vaccines.

Vaccine Reminders

Thousands of doses have been provided to student in the MLHU area over the past several months.

We **thank you** for your ongoing assistance with vaccine catch-up!



Vaccine Ordering Information

Vaccine Ordering Information

- Publicly-funded **Shingrix** vaccine is back in stock.
- **Pediacel** vaccine is discontinued.
- Pentacel vaccine will permanently replace this vaccine for the 2-, 4-, 6-, and 18-month doses of DTaP-IPV-Hib.
- Please note that Pentacel requires reconstitution. Both the powder and liquid are provided in the box.
- **Priorix (MMRV)** vaccine was replaced with an updated version last month. This pre-filled syringe product now requires reconstitution with the diluent provided in the package.



Vaccine Returns

Vaccine Returns

Reminder:

- Expired or unusable publicly-funded vaccine should be returned to the Middlesex-London Health Unit (MLHU) on a regular basis.
- Return vaccine when you come to the MLHU to pick up a new order.
- All vaccine returns (except *COVID-19 vaccine) must be in a closed bag, accompanied by a completed [Vaccine Return Form](#).
- Returned vaccines do not need to be transported in a cooler.



VACCINE RETURN FORM
THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY ALL VACCINE RETURNS

Physician/Clinic Name:	Phone #:
Date of Return:	Date of Cold Chain Incident (if applicable):

**Please write in # of doses returned, not # of boxes.*

Name of Vaccine	# of Doses	Lot #	Expiry Date	Reason for Return

Vaccine Returns

The Health Unit accepts vaccine returns at the following sites and times:

Citi Plaza London Site – 355 Wellington Street, Suite 110

- Loading dock during vaccine pick-up times ([instructions for accessing the loading dock](#)):
 - Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.
 - Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Main reception:

- Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Vaccine Returns

Strathroy Site - 51 Front Street (in the Shops on Sydenham)

Main reception:

- Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- ***Please note** that expired COVID-19 vaccine must be wasted online in COVAXon, and physically wasted at your premise.
- **Do not send COVID-19 vaccine back to MLHU.**

Vaccine Returns

Construction Detours

- There is construction occurring in downtown London.
- It is best to avoid York Street, as access to Clarence Street from York Street is closed.
- To attend the Health Unit Citi Plaza main reception or the loading dock, access Clarence Street from the north (Dundas Street) or from King Street.



Morgan Lobzun, 2024



Information about Extreme Heat and Heat Related Illnesses

Information about Extreme Heat and Heat Related Illnesses

The Middlesex-London Health Unit issues an extreme weather alert when [Environment Canada's](#) heat warning criteria are met:

- A daytime temperature of 31°C or higher with a nighttime low of 20°C or higher; or,
- A humidex of 40 or higher for two or more consecutive days.

Information about Extreme Heat and Heat Related Illnesses

- Due to climate change and the rise in air temperatures, an increase in heat-related morbidity and mortality is expected.
- Heat-related illnesses can present with [symptoms](#) such as rash, cramps, and edema.
- Without intervention, [symptoms](#) can progress to heat exhaustion or heat stroke.

Information about Extreme Heat and Heat Related Illnesses

Individuals who are more vulnerable to heat-related illness include:

- Infants, young children, and older adults (especially >75 years)
- Patients with chronic diseases (i.e., cardiovascular disease, metabolic conditions, respiratory illnesses, etc.)
- Patients taking certain medications (i.e., treatment for high blood pressure, depression, psychosis, movement disorders, etc.)
- Vulnerable populations (i.e., individuals with limited mobility, social isolation, no air conditioning, etc.)

Information about Extreme Heat and Heat Related Illnesses

Recommendations to decrease patient risk of heat-related illness include:

- drink water frequently without waiting to feel thirst,
- seek air-conditioned buildings (i.e., [cooling centres](#)),
- wear breathable, light-coloured clothing and a wide-brimmed hat, and
- restrict physical activity to the coolest time of the day.
- patient [handouts](#) with tips are available on-line.

Information about Extreme Heat and Heat Related Illnesses

- For additional information:
 - [Practical strategies for prevention and treatment of heat-induced illness \(CFP\)](#)
 - [Extreme Heat Events Guidelines: Technical Guide for Health Care Workers \(Government of Canada\)](#)



Extreme Heat Events Guidelines:
Technical Guide for Health Care Workers





New/Updated Resources

New/Updated Resources

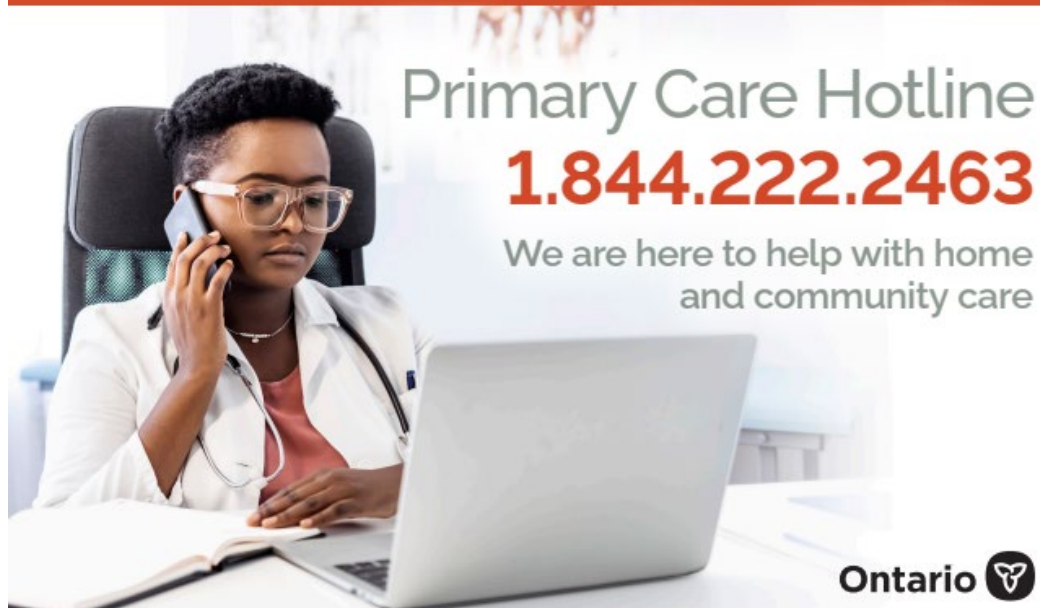
Outbreak Control Measures in Congregate Living Settings

- In April 2024, the Ministry of Health provided updated [Recommendations for Outbreak Prevention and Control in Institutions and Congregate Living Settings](#).
- In addition to updating practices, this guidance amalgamates and replaces previously separate documents for COVID-19, influenza and enteric outbreaks.
- This guidance applies to a range of institutions and congregate living settings including long-term care homes, retirement homes, and correctional facilities.

New/Updated Resources

Call the Primary Care Hotline and speak with a Care Coordinator

HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE SUPPORT SERVICES
South West



They will help navigate your patient's home and community care needs

Home and Community Care Support Services South West is here to help with coordinating your patients' home and community care

It's easy – one number access to all community information.

- Connect with a care coordinator
- Ask about a patient currently receiving home care service
- Make referrals for patients with chronic and complex needs, as well as palliative care support
- Our services include nursing, personal support, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and social work
- We support long-term care eligibility and applications
- Learn about available community resources and let us help with community service referrals

Ontario 



Newsletter and Webinar Schedule

Newsletter and Webinar Schedule

- Next webinar:
 - [June 18, 2024](#)
- **Please note** that the June 18th webinar will be our last webinar for this season.
- Webinars will resume in the fall.
- The eNewsletters will be reduced in July and August to once a month and will resume twice monthly in September.

Thank you for joining us!

Questions?

- Ask using chat function now, or after the webinar at:
healthcareproviders@mlhu.on.ca
- For urgent matters please call the Health Unit's
main line at **519-663-5317**
- For more information
www.healthunit.com/healthcare-providers

