

April 4, 2022

Dear Parent or Guardian of a Grade 7 or 8 Student,

The Brant County Health Unit (BCHU) will be returning to your child's school in May to offer a clinic to Grade 7 and 8 students for publicly funded hepatitis B, human papillomavirus (HPV) and meningitis (Men C-ACYW-135) vaccines. This clinic is for students due or overdue for a second dose or who have not yet received first doses. The meningitis vaccine requires only one dose, and the hepatitis B and HPV vaccines require two doses. To find out when we'll be at your child's school, visit [www.bchu.org/SchoolClinics](http://www.bchu.org/SchoolClinics). Please note, we will be requiring each child to wear a mask within the immunization clinic space. Masks can be provided by BCHU as needed.

**Please note, if you previously provided consent to BCHU for your child to receive these vaccines during our first dose clinics in Fall 2021 or during a previous school-based clinic or clinic at the health unit, this would have been consent for the vaccine series. You are not required to provide consent again.**

Please contact BCHU Vaccine Preventable Disease program at 519-753-4937 ext. 451 to speak to a nurse if:

- You have not previously provided consent but would like your child to receive these vaccines at the school clinic
- You are not sure if you previously provided consent for your child to receive these vaccines
- You previously provided consent for your child to receive these vaccines but would like to withdraw consent
- Your child received these vaccines at a family doctor's office (Please note, vaccinations can also be reported online at [www.bchu.org/emunization](http://www.bchu.org/emunization))
- There has been any update in your child's health history since you provided consent
- Your child is not attending school in person, but you would like to schedule an appt at BCHU to receive the vaccines (Please note, you can also follow up with your child's family doctor to receive these vaccines)

These vaccines greatly reduce the risk of your child getting sick with these diseases and can prevent certain types of cancer. They are safe, effective, and recommended as part of Ontario's Routine Immunization Schedule. The meningitis vaccine is required by law for all children, Grade 7 and older, attending school in Ontario, unless otherwise exempted. To ensure that individuals remain safe from vaccine preventable diseases and to maintain a high level of community protection, it is important that routine vaccinations are maintained despite COVID-19. Vaccines can prevent illnesses that can lead to hospitalization and significant complications. Vaccines can also prevent outbreaks, which can impact communities and particularly affect more vulnerable populations.

For more information on each vaccine, please review the vaccine fact sheets on our website as follows:

Hepatitis B: [www.bchu.org/HepB-FactSheet](http://www.bchu.org/HepB-FactSheet)

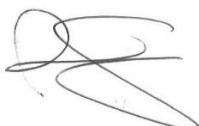
HPV: [www.bchu.org/HPV-FactSheet](http://www.bchu.org/HPV-FactSheet)

Meningitis [www.bchu.org/MenC-FactSheet](http://www.bchu.org/MenC-FactSheet)

If your child has received or is planning to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, please note the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) has determined that COVID-19 vaccines may be administered at any time before, any time after, or at the same time as a non-COVID-19 vaccine(s). This includes the vaccines BCHU will be offering during these school clinics. Please note BCHU will **not** be offering the COVID-19 vaccine during these clinics. To arrange a COVID-19 vaccine for your child, you may visit [www.bchu.org/COVID19Vaccines](http://www.bchu.org/COVID19Vaccines).

For more information, please visit our website at [www.bchu.org](http://www.bchu.org) or contact us at 519-753-4937 ext. 451.

Sincerely,



Dr. Rebecca Comley  
Medical Officer of Health