

August 17, 2020

**To:** Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

**Copies:** Medical Officers of Health, RHA Regional Directors, Immunization Coordinators, and Deputy Chief Medical Office of Health

**Subject:** School Immunization Program for 2020-2021

Dear Colleagues:

The Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health realizes this is a challenging time for all. However, we feel it is important to continue to protect the students of New Brunswick by offering the annual in-school immunization program again this year. We recognize the need for a flexible approach as we are in uncertain times with the pandemic. As the school year is quickly approaching we would like to provide you with information on the vaccines that will be offered to students in Grades 7 and 9 in the upcoming school year.

The following table summarizes the publicly-funded vaccines that are available through the provincial immunization program. It is hoped that this information will assist you with communication from your office to the local districts. I would expect local public health offices will be in touch with district offices in the very near future and will adapt plans to work within current operational plans for COVID-19. Please refer to *COVID-19 Recovery Phase: Public Health Guidance to Department of Education and Early Childhood Development for Schools*.

New Brunswick School Immunization Program for 2020-2021			
Grade	Product	Protection against	Comment
7	Gardasil 9	HPV (types, 6, 11, 16, 18, 31, 33, 45, 52, and 58)	Gardasil requires 2 doses with a 6-month interval between doses.
	Boostrix	Tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis	
9	Nimenrix / Menactra	Invasive meningococcal disease (types ACYW-135)	For students born in 2006 who have not received 2 doses of varicella vaccine and who have not had lab confirmed chickenpox disease.
	Varilrix®	Varicella (chicken pox)	

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School aged children are eligible and are encouraged to receive the seasonal influenza vaccine. Parents and students should be referred to their primary healthcare provider, Pharmacist, or local Public Health office for more information on this vaccine.

More information on New Brunswick's Immunization Program is available at:

<http://www2.gnb.ca/content/dam/gnb/Departments/h-s/pdf/en/CDC/Immunization/RoutineImmunizationSchedule.pdf>

I want to thank you for your continued support in the provision of vaccines to school-aged children through school clinics, especially during this pandemic. Your support is necessary to the success of immunization programs and disease prevention amongst school children.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shelley Landsburg', written in a cursive style.

Shelley Landsburg, BNRN MPH  
Director  
Disease Prevention and Control