

Health Unit

Media Release

For immediate release, April 24, 2007



New or old, vaccines remain effective and efficient weapons in Public Health's fight against infectious diseases

Tetanus, Meningitis, Hepatitis and Measles are illnesses we can live without, thanks to the advent of safe, publicly funded immunization programs.

April is designated as National Vaccine Awareness month, a time to individually and collectively think about our immunization status. Here is a quiz with some questions to consider:

1. Adults should get a **tetanus** vaccine:
 - a) When they get a dirty cut.
 - b) Every 10 years
 - c) When the doctor or Nurse Practitioner says it's time
2. The newly approved vaccine **Gardasil** is:
 - a) Recommended for sexually active males
 - b) Not publicly funded yet
 - c) Recommended for women with cancer of the cervix
3. **Meningitis C** vaccine is available free of charge to:
 - a) One year old infants
 - b) 12-19 year old teens
 - c) Both a) & b)
4. When a school age child is given a vaccine at the doctor's office:
 - a) The receptionist updates the office record and notifies the Health Unit
 - b) The parent must notify the school
 - c) The parent must notify the Health Unit. Forgetting to do this can trigger a school suspension notice

Correct answers: 1. b) 2. b) 3. c) 4.c)

For more information on vaccines ask your family doctor, nurse practitioner or contact the Leeds Grenville Lanark Health Unit at 613-345-5685 or 1-800-660-5853 or checkout the new Canadian Immunization Guidelines at [<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/cig-gci/>]

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