

Health Unit Media Release

For immediate release: April 17, 2008



Keeping Your Child's Immunization Records Up to Date is Important National Immunization Awareness Week April 20-26 2008

The Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit would like to mark National Immunization Awareness Week 2008 by reminding parents to keep updated immunization records for their children on hand at all times. **This important health information should be readily accessible to parents in case of a communicable disease outbreak, such as mumps in the school setting.** When the Health Unit does not have up-to-date immunization records for students, children may be excluded from school if there is a case of a vaccine-preventable disease present. To get a copy of your child's immunization records, contact the health care professional or the Health Unit that provided the immunization.

It is important to notify the Health Unit when your health care professional immunizes your child. At the present time, immunization information is not automatically transferred between health care providers and the Health Unit. The Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit has a legislated mandate to ensure that all school children are immunized or have the appropriate exemptions. Health Unit staff regularly conduct immunization audits in schools to identify any students for whom we do not have up-to-date immunization information. Keeping the Health Unit informed of your child's immunization status can prevent your child from being unduly suspended or excluded from school.

You can notify the Health Unit in one of three ways:

- By phone: 1-800-66-5853 or 613-345-5685
- By fax: 613-345-7038
- By mail: Att: Department of Clinical Services
Vaccine Preventable Disease Program
458 Laurier Blvd.
Brockville, ON
K6V 7A3

To learn more about immunizations please call the HealthACTION line at 1-800-660-5853 or visit www.healthunit.org.

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Contact:
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613-345-5685 or 613-283-2740