To: Local News Media  
From: Central Michigan District Health Department  
RE: Back to School Immunization Requirements  
Release Date: August 15, 2018

Are your children up-to-date with their immunizations?  

Protect your school-aged children against vaccine preventable diseases by getting them and your entire family immunized. This will help them stay healthy and will meet school requirements, too!

Immunizations are just one of the many things to think about when a new school year rolls around, especially if your child is entering kindergarten, 7th grade or changing school districts. In January 2015, a school entrance requirement went into effect regarding nonmedical immunization waivers. A parent or guardian who wishes to have any or all of the school-required immunizations waived for their child must meet with staff from a local health department to discuss the benefits of vaccines and potential risks of vaccine-preventable diseases. This rule does not take away the right to obtain a nonmedical waiver. Immunization waivers for medical reasons must be obtained from a physician.

School-aged children need to be protected against Tetanus, Pertussis (whooping cough), Diphtheria, Polio, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Hepatitis B, Meningococcal and Chickenpox (Varicella). The number of doses needed varies by age. To view the immunization requirements for school-aged children, visit www.michigan.gov and search for “school immunization requirements”.

Please contact your physician or local health department to make sure your child is ready for school! The Central Michigan District Health Department provides immunizations by appointment (we offer immunizations to those with and without medical/insurance coverage). A small fee may apply for immunizations received; however, no child is turned away for immunizations based on an inability to pay. For more information, to set up an appointment for immunizations, or to discuss nonmedical waivers, please call:

Arenac County: 989-846-6541, option 2  
Clare County: 989-539-6731, option 2  
Gladwin County: 989-426-9431, option 2

Isabella County: 989-773-5921, option 2  
Osceola County: 231-832-5532, option 2  
Roscommon County: 989-366-9166, option 2
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To request an interview, please visit our website (cmdhd.org) and fill out the Media Interview Request Form.