



PRESS RELEASE FOR LOCAL MEDIA

Central Michigan District Health Department

"Promoting Healthy Families, Healthy Communities"

For more information, please call: (989) 773-5921 ext. 8409

2012 E. Preston Avenue, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858, www.cmdhd.org

To: Isabella County Newspapers

From: Heather Cole, Health Educator

RE: Back to School Immunization Requirements

Release Date: July 22, 2011

It's back-to-school time. New immunizations, along with new clothes, new backpacks, and new school supplies, may need to be included on your back-to-school checklist. New immunization requirements for school-aged children were implemented in 2010. Two doses of Varicella vaccine or a history of the chickenpox disease are now required for all children entering kindergarten, all sixth graders, and all children changing school districts. The following vaccines are also required for all children ages 11 to 18 years who are changing school districts or who are enrolled in the sixth grade:

- One dose of meningococcal vaccine (MCV4)
- One dose of tetanus/diphtheria/acellular pertussis (Tdap) or if five years have passed since last dose of tetanus/diphtheria vaccine (DTaP, Td, DT)

These, along with the previously recommended routine childhood vaccines will help protect children from serious diseases. To view the immunization requirements for school, visit www.michigan.gov/teenvaccines and click "schools" and then "Communicable Disease School Rules." Please contact your local health department or medical provider in order to make sure your child is ready to go back to school!

The Isabella Branch office of Central Michigan District Health Department will be offering immunizations as well as hearing and vision screenings during the Family Health Fair on August 16,

2011 from 2 – 6 pm at the health department located at 2012 E. Preston St., Mt. Pleasant, MI. A small fee may apply for immunizations. Please call (989) 773-5291 ext. 8405 for more details.

Children enrolled in private and public schools participate in hearing and/or vision screenings each year as a requirement of the State of Michigan. Hearing and vision screenings are done on an alternating basis depending upon grade level. Kindergartners who missed kindergarten round-up and home-schooled children are encouraged to attend the Family Health Fair on August 16th for these important screenings. Children in other grade levels will receive their screenings during school hours throughout the 2011-2012 school year.

This article was brought to you by the staff at Central Michigan District Health Department which serves the counties of Arenac, Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Osceola, and Roscommon.

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