**Immunization for Child Care Centre Employee**

Dear Child Care Centre Employee,

According to the Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014, “Every licensee of a child care centre shall ensure that, before commencing employment, every person employed in a child care centre it operates and every volunteer or student who is on an educational placement with the licensee has a health assessment and immunization as directed by the local medical officer of health”.

Windsor-Essex County’s Medical Officer of Health (MOH) requires all child care employees, students, and volunteers to have up-to-date immunizations as listed when they start work or an educational placement. There is no specific requirements for a health assessment in addition to these immunizations. The immunizations are to be kept on file by the child care centre. You are encouraged to speak to your health care provider to make sure you are up-to-date on your immunizations.

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| **Immunizations directed by MOH for employment (required)** | | |
| **Vaccine** | **Diseases** | **Employees, Students or Volunteers** |
| Td/Tdap | Tetanus  Diphtheria  Pertussis | 1 dose of Tdap in adulthood, then 1 dose of Td every 10 years. |
| MMR | Measles  Mumps  Rubella | If born in 1970 or later:  Minimum of 1 documented dose of MMR vaccine or proof of immunity (blood test).  If born before 1970:  Assumed to have natural immunity. |
| Var | Varicella | Fulfill one of these three criteria:   * A history of chickenpox or shingles after 1 year of age (self-reported) * 2 doses of Varicella vaccine * Proof of immunity (blood test) |
| HB | Hepatitis B | 2 or 3 doses depending on age.  Workers in child care centres where there is a child or worker who has acute HB or is a HB carrier should receive HB vaccine followed by immunity testing (blood test) 1 to 6 months after the last dose of HB vaccine. |

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| **Immunizations that are strongly encouraged (but not required)** | | |
| **Vaccine** | **Diseases** | **Employees, Students or Volunteers** |
| Flu | Influenza | Every year in the fall, at the start of respiratory illness season.  Especially for employees caring for children under 5 years of age. |
| COVID-19 | SARS-CoV-2 | Every year in the fall, at the start of respiratory illness season.  Especially for employees caring for children under 5 years of age. |

A person who objects to one or more of the required vaccines due to medical or non-medical reasons, must complete a standardized approved exemption form from the Ministry of Education and provide it to the child care licensee.

In the event of an outbreak related to a vaccine preventable disease, the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit (WECHU) may order the exclusion of persons who have an incomplete immunization record from presence at a child care centre until the risk of the outbreak has ended.

For more information, visit [www.wechu.org](http://www.wechu.org) or call 519-258-2146 ext. 1222 for questions or concerns.