

## **JOHN RENNIE HIGH SCHOOL**

Subject: Grade 9 vaccination program

Dear parents and students,

The following is to inform you about the upcoming school vaccination program. In Quebec, the legal age for consent to a treatment is 14 years of age and therefore your child, aged 14 years or older can consent to his/her vaccination.

**The vaccination will be held at the school on October 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Please bring your vaccination booklet, wear a short sleeved shirt and eat a good breakfast.**

In Grade 9, a dose of the Tdap vaccine (which protects against diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus) is provided to all students. Even if your child received a vaccine against diphtheria and tetanus (d2T5) over the past five years, (for example as a result of an injury, a bite or a trip). Tdap is recommended to protect them against Pertussis (Whooping Cough)

In addition, the nurse will check your child's vaccination booklet to ensure that he/she has received all the appropriate vaccines for the following: diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, varicella (chicken pox), hepatitis B and HPV (for girls only).

### **OTHER VACCINES**

A vaccine (one dose) against **meningococcal serogroup C** infections will be available to all grade nine students. The meningococcus is a bacterium that can cause severe infections such as meningitis or blood infections. The purpose of this addition to the immunization program is to maintain individual and collective protection.

#### **HPV vaccine**

According to the study conducted by the Health Agency of Quebec, girls who received two doses of HPV in grade four are adequately protected and therefore do not require an additional dose. The vaccine against HPV will be offered (through the school nurse or your local CLSC) to girls who did not receive the vaccine or have not completed the required doses.

- **Please fill out the two first sections of the authorization. Please fill out the information even if you refuse the vaccination.**
- **Leave the authorization form in the box at reception or in your agenda ready for the nurses on vaccination day.**
- **On the day of vaccination, please bring your vaccination booklet, even if you refuse vaccination, so the nurses can update your vaccination status in the provincial vaccination registry.**
- **Be assured that nurses on site will be verifying the vaccination status and will only be giving the necessary vaccines recommended by public health.**

In the event that your child is absent during the scheduled vaccination, please call your local CLSC:

CLSC Dorval-Lachine at 514-639-0650 #80668

CLSC Pierrefonds at 450-626-2572

CLSC Lac St-Louis at 514-697-4110

**For more information on these vaccines and vaccination in general, here are a few helpful Websites;**  
Ministry of Health and Social Services:

- [www.msss.gouv.qc.ca/sujets/santepub/vaccination/index.php?accueil](http://www.msss.gouv.qc.ca/sujets/santepub/vaccination/index.php?accueil)
- Public Health Agency of Canada: [www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/std-mts/faq-fra.php#vph](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/std-mts/faq-fra.php#vph)
- Society of Obstetricians- Gynecologists of Canada : [www.infovph.ca/](http://www.infovph.ca/)

Thank you for your cooperation,

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# Information on the Tdap Vaccine

Vaccination is the best protection against tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough and their complications. The Tdap vaccine is given to people aged 4 and older who require protection against these 3 diseases. This vaccine is usually given in Secondary 3.

**Some symptoms may be caused by the vaccine (e.g. redness at the injection site). Other problems may occur by chance and are not related to the vaccine (e.g. cold, gastro, headache).**

**The Tdap vaccine is safe. Most reactions are harmless and do not last long.**

50% of people)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fatigue, headache</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply a cold, damp compress at the injection site.</li> <li>Use a medication for fever or discomfort if needed.</li> <li>See a doctor if symptoms are severe.</li> </ul>
Very often (less than 50% of people)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Redness and swelling at the injection site</li> <li>Discomfort, dizziness, nausea, diarrhea, shivering</li> </ul>	
Often (less than 10% of people)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fever</li> <li>Loss of appetite, vomiting</li> <li>Irritability, drowsiness (sleepiness)</li> <li>Skin rash</li> <li>Swollen lymph nodes</li> </ul>	
Sometimes (less than 1% of people)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small lump for a few weeks at the injection site</li> </ul>	
Very rarely (less than 1 person in 10,000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sterile abscess at the injection site</li> <li>Intense pain and weakness in the arm for several weeks</li> </ul>	

We recommend that you stay at the clinic for at least 15 minutes after vaccination because allergic reactions may occur. If an allergic reaction occurs, the symptoms will appear a few minutes after the vaccination. The person giving the vaccine will be able to treat this reaction immediately.

## Meningococcal Serogroup C Conjugate Vaccine

Vaccination,  
the best protection



Vaccination is the best protection against meningococcal serogroup C infections and their complications. Meningitis (infection of the brain lining) and meningococemia (infection of the blood) are two serious infections caused by serogroup C meningococcus. There are different serogroups (or types) of meningococcus, among other serogroups A, B, C, Y and W135. Serogroup B and serogroup C are the ones found most often in Québec. This vaccine protects against serogroup C.

Disease	Signs and symptoms	Possible complications
<b>Serogroup C meningococcal infections</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High fever</li> <li>Severe headache</li> <li>Nausea and vomiting</li> <li>General feeling of illness</li> <li>Red marks or tiny pin-size hemorrhages or bruises on the skin</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permanent brain damage</li> <li>Amputation of hands or feet (10 to 15% of cases)</li> <li>Death (10 to 15% of cases)</li> </ul>

### The vaccine

Vaccination is the best protection against meningococcal serogroup C infections and their complications. In Québec, this vaccine is recommended for children at the age of 1, and Secondary 3.

### Symptoms after vaccination

Some symptoms may be caused by the vaccine (e.g. redness at the injection site). Other problems may occur by chance and are not related to the vaccine (e.g. cold, gastro, headache).

Meningococcal serogroup C conjugate vaccine is safe. Most reactions are harmless and do not last long.

Frequency	Possible reactions to the vaccine	What to do
In most cases (more than 50% of people)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pain at the injection site</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply a cold, damp compress at the injection site.</li> <li>Use a medication for fever or discomfort if needed.</li> <li>See a doctor if symptoms are severe.</li> </ul>
Very often (less than 50% of people)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Redness and swelling at the injection site</li> <li>Fever, drowsiness (sleepiness) and irritability, especially among children under 5</li> <li>Headache, discomfort, muscle pain and joint pain, especially in people age 11 or older</li> <li>Loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea</li> </ul>	

We recommend that you stay at the clinic for at least 15 minutes after vaccination because allergic reactions may occur. If an allergic reaction occurs, the symptoms will appear a few minutes after the vaccination. The person giving the vaccine will be able to treat this reaction immediately.

**For any questions, contact the person giving the vaccine, or Info-Santé 8-1-1 or your doctor.**