

Vaccination,
the best protection

Free human papilloma virus (HPV) and hepatitis A vaccines

for young people in Grade 4
of primary school

Form
to complete
inside



Important messages

This leaflet contains key information on HPV and hepatitis A vaccination offered to all young people in Grade 4 of primary school. If you would like more information, websites are listed on the last page of the leaflet. You can also contact the school nurse, Info Santé 811 or a health professional.

Whether or not you choose to have your child vaccinated, you must:

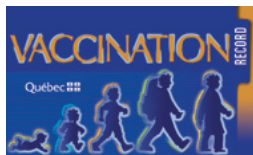
- fill out the consent form (at the end of the leaflet);
- return the completed form to the school quickly.

How will vaccination be done at school?

Both vaccines will be given at school at the same time by the school nurse.

On the day of vaccination, your child should:

- wear a short sleeved sweater;
- bring the vaccination record if it has not already been sent to the school.



Why two vaccines at the same time?

This practice is safe and does not cause more adverse effects after vaccination. Possible reactions to the vaccines will be felt only once.

This practice has been used for several decades in Quebec and around the world.

What if my child is absent from school on the day of vaccination?

If your child is sick or absent from school on the day of vaccination, the school nurse will tell you the procedure to follow to obtain the vaccines.

Did you know?



- People can be infected with more than one type of HPV at a time and more than once with the same type of HPV.
- Without vaccination, around 3 out of 4 people will have an HPV infection at least once in their lifetime.
- A person who does not have symptoms can still spread hepatitis A virus or HPV.
- The hepatitis A vaccine and the HPV vaccine cannot cause infection.

No link has been made between vaccination and serious diseases according to the studies conducted by many researchers since vaccination first started.

What diseases will vaccination protect my child against?

	Hepatitis A	HPV
Infection/disease and main symptoms	<p>The hepatitis A virus attacks the liver.</p> <p>Symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – fatigue; – loss of appetite, nausea or vomiting; – abdominal pain; – fever; – diarrhea; – yellow skin and whites of the eyes (jaundice); – pale stools and dark urine. <p>Some people do not have symptoms.</p>	<p>HPV is one of the most widespread viruses (more than 100 different types).</p> <p>HPV can infect many parts of the body and cause cancer and genital warts.</p> <p>Very often, there are no symptoms.</p> <p>If there are symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – genital or anal warts (small bumps); – precancerous lesions of the genitals, cervix or throat (e.g., bleeding, pain).
Possible complications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Serious liver damage; – Persistent fatigue (for several weeks); – Death (0.1 to 0.3% of cases). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cervical cancer; – Cancers of the vagina, vulva, penis or anus; – Throat cancer; – Death (cervical cancer causes around 70 deaths per year in Quebec).
Transmission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – By consuming water or food; – By using objects contaminated by the stool of an infected person. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – By intimate contact with the skin or mucosa of an infected person (mainly during sexual activities).

Why get vaccinated?

Vaccination is the best way to protect against hepatitis A, HPV and their complications. These vaccines are offered in Grade 4 for the following reasons:

- the immune system responds best to these vaccines at this age;
- it is preferable for young people to have been given one dose of these vaccines before they are exposed to these infections;
- vaccination at school means that many young people can be vaccinated in a short period of time. It also avoids trips for parents.

	Hepatitis A vaccine	HPV vaccine
Effectiveness	Very effective (more than 95%). Hepatitis A has almost disappeared in young people who have been vaccinated in Quebec.	Nearly 100% effective against the types included in the vaccine, especially if the vaccine was administered before engaging in sexually activity.
Is the vaccine safe?	Yes. It has been used for over 25 years.	Yes. It has been used for over 15 years and over 500 million doses have been administered worldwide.
Protection	<p>Lasts at least 25 to 35 years.</p> <p>Studies are ongoing, but there is no indication that a booster dose is needed later in life.</p>	Lasts at least 14 years.
How many doses will my child be given?	<p>A single dose is required to obtain good protection against both infections when vaccination is administered at this age.</p> <p>A child with a weakened immune system or living with HIV will need additional doses of vaccines, given according to a special schedule. If this is the case for your child, the school nurse will be able to give you more information.</p>	
Possible reactions after vaccination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Pain, redness and swelling at the injection site – Headache, muscle pain and fatigue – Fever, nausea or vomiting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Pain, redness and swelling at the injection site – Fever – Itching at the injection site
	<p>There is a very low risk of a serious allergic reaction to each vaccine. This type of reaction usually occurs within minutes of vaccination. The nurse is trained to intervene immediately to manage the allergic reaction.</p>	
What you should do if reactions occur after vaccination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Apply a cold, moist compress on the injection site to reduce the pain, swelling, redness, or itching. – Give acetaminophen or ibuprofen to reduce fever or discomfort as needed (after vaccination). – Consult Info Santé 811 or a health professional, depending on the severity of the symptoms. 	

Questions and answers

Hepatitis A

My child has already been given a dose of hepatitis A vaccine. How can I know if my child is protected and does not need another dose of vaccine?

Your child is already well protected against hepatitis A and does not need to have another dose of hepatitis A vaccine if they were given:

- 1 dose of hepatitis A vaccine as of 12 months of age.
- OR
- 1 dose of combined hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccine as of 12 months of age.

If your child was given 1 dose of one of these vaccines before 12 months of age, they must be given 1 dose of hepatitis A vaccine to have good long term protection. There is no danger in being given a vaccine more than once.

My child has already had hepatitis A. Do they have to get vaccinated against hepatitis A?

No. They are already protected against hepatitis A.

HPV

How do I talk to my child about HPV?

You can simply tell your child that vaccination is important for young people their age and that it will protect them from infections they might catch when they are older.

If you want to discuss the subject of sexuality with your child, you can consult the school nurse or the Mosaik bulletins at the following address: <https://publications.msss.gouv.qc.ca/msss/en/document-001666/>

Why vaccinate boys against HPV?

In men, HPV can cause condylomata or cancers such as cancers of the penis or throat.

The HPV vaccine was approved for men a few years after it was approved for girls and women, after data was obtained demonstrating the effectiveness and safety of vaccination in men.

The addition of school based vaccination for boys in Grade 4 of primary school followed a recommendation from Quebec experts to offer men direct protection at the most appropriate time, when they are not yet exposed to HPV.

Vaccination against HPV has been offered to boys in Grade 4 of primary school since September 2016 and to boys in Grade 3 of secondary school, as part of the immunization status update, since September 2018.

Are there tests for precancerous lesions or cancer?

There are only tests for precancerous lesions and cancer of the cervix (e.g., Pap test or HPV test).

At the moment, there are no reliable tests to detect precancerous lesions or cancer on other parts of the body. Vaccination is the best way to protect against HPV and its complications.

Websites you should visit

Government of Quebec

Vaccination section, including a page on ways to reduce pain and anxiety related to vaccination

quebec.ca/vaccination

Government of Canada

Health, Vaccines and immunization section

canada.ca

Canadian Paediatric Society

Immunization section

caringforkids.cps.ca

Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada

hpvinfo.ca

sexandu.ca

Naître et grandir

Tout ce qu'il faut savoir sur la vaccination section

naitreetgrandir.com

For more information, visit:

[Québec.ca/vaccination](http://Quebec.ca/vaccination)



CONSENT FORM FOR VACCINATION AGAINST HEPATITIS A AND HUMAN PAPILLOMA VIRUS (HPV) IN GRADE 4 OF PRIMARY SCHOOL

File number				
Child's First and Last Name				
Date of Birth		Year	Month	Day
				Gender <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F
Health Insurance Number			Year	Month
			Expiration	
Address				
City			Postal Code	

- Complete all sections of the form, including the box above, using a pen.
- Sign and detach the form from the leaflet and return it to the school, whether or not you accept the vaccination.

IDENTIFICATION OF THE PERSON		
Name of the school :		Group :
Name of parent 1 :	Name of parent 2 :	Guardian's name (if applicable)
Your status: <input type="checkbox"/> Parent 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Parent 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Guardian		
Area Code	Telephone No.	If you wish to be contacted by e-mail, please enter your e-mail address below:

CHILD'S MEDICAL AND VACCINATION HISTORY	
1. Has your child ever had a severe allergic reaction that required emergency medical care?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, specify the reason: <input type="checkbox"/> Vaccine <input type="checkbox"/> Other, specify: _____	
2. Does your child have problems with his or her immune system because of an illness (e.g., cancer) or a medication (e.g., cancer treatment)?	<input type="checkbox"/> If yes, specify : _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No
If so, your child may receive an additional dose	
Please provide your child's vaccination record, whether or not you accept the vaccination. This information will be validated and recorded, including the doses administered.	

CONSENT (DECISION) OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN			
As the parent or guardian of a child under the age of 14, you are responsible for making decisions about his or her vaccination.			
The explanations that will allow you to make a clear decision are provided in this leaflet. For more information, please contact your school nurse, a health professional or Info-Santé 811.			
1. Indicate whether you agree or refuse to have your child vaccinated against hepatitis A.			
<input type="checkbox"/> I AGREE that my child receive this vaccine following the health professional's analysis.			
<input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT WANT my child to receive this vaccine.			
<input type="checkbox"/> DOES NOT APPLY because my child has already been vaccinated against hepatitis A or has already had hepatitis A : Date of vaccination or illness: _____			
2. Indicate whether you agree or refuse to have your child vaccinated against HPV (human papillomavirus).			
<input type="checkbox"/> I AGREE that my child receive this vaccine following the health professional's analysis.			
<input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT WANT my child to receive this vaccine.			
<input type="checkbox"/> DOES NOT APPLY because my child has already been vaccinated against HPV : Date of vaccination or illness: _____			
Signature of parent or guardian		Date	Year Month Day

