

Subject: School-based catch-up vaccination campaign against serogroup Y meningococcus and measles

When your child was in Secondary 3, they were offered the meningococcal serogroup C vaccine. However, they remain vulnerable to other serogroups such as serogroup Y.

Since September 2022, we have seen an increase in invasive serogroup Y meningococcal infections. Young people aged 14 to 18 are the most affected. Meningococcus is a bacteria that can cause severe infections such as meningitis (infection of the lining of the brain) and septicemia (blood poisoning).

Québec experts recommend that students in Secondary 5, including young people in the same age group who are not in these grades, be vaccinated against meningococcal serogroups A, C, W and Y.

To protect against these meningococcal infections and their complications, your child **will be offered a free quadrivalent meningococcal vaccine for serogroups A, C, W and Y**. It is safe to receive this vaccine after having received the meningococcal serogroup C vaccine. **A vaccine against measles, mumps and rubella will also be available for those who need a dose.**

In Québec, the legal age of consent for vaccination and other forms of health care is 14. Your child can therefore consent on their own.

To find information that will help you support your child in their consent process and to learn more about vaccination and vaccine-preventable diseases, visit the *Vaccination* section of the Government of Québec website at: [Québec.ca/vaccination](https://quebec.ca/vaccination).

QUADRIVALENT MENINGOCOCCAL VACCINE FOR SEROGROUPS A, C, W AND Y

This inactivated vaccine is safe, and the majority of reactions are mild and short term.

Complete information on the infection and the vaccine can be found in the *Vaccination, the Best Protection - Quadrivalent Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine* information sheet available at <https://publications.msss.gouv.qc.ca/msss/document-003615>.

COMBINED VACCINE AGAINST MEASLES, MUMPS AND

The measles vaccine is very effective in preventing the disease. When 2 doses of the vaccine are received after the age of 1, more than 99% of people are protected.

Complete information on the infection and the vaccine can be found in the *MMR Vaccine* information sheet available at https://publications.msss.gouv.qc.ca/msss/fichiers/piq/feuillet_ang_2019/A23_mmr.pdf

VACCINATION SERVICES

The vaccination clinic at **Mile-End** school will be on **November 7th 2024**.

On the day of vaccination, please make sure your child has their vaccination records, and that they wear a short sleeve shirt. The administered vaccine will be recorded in your child's booklet. A health insurance card is not needed.

Should your child be absent on the day of the vaccination clinic, please make an appointment with your local service point or family doctor/pediatrician. To make an appointment at your local service point, visit the web portal **Clic Santé** (<https://clicsante.ca>), choose the service "**vaccinations**" > "**children and teens vaccinations**".

You can also call 514-734-9911 to make an appointment.

Please bring this paper and all of your child's vaccination records to your appointment.

Thank you for your cooperation.

School nurse team – Healthy Schools program
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