

# School Immunization Law Admin Rule HFS 144

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# **What are the new vaccine requirements?**

**One dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and acellular pertussis) vaccine will be required for students entering grades 6, 9 and 12.**

# Tdap

- New vaccine and a new ACIP recommendation
  - Vaccine licensed in 2005
- Pertussis outbreaks costly
  - Hospitalizations
  - Complications
  - Burden on schools, parents and providers

- A second dose of **varicella (chickenpox) vaccine** will be required for students entering **grades K5 (5 year old), 6 and 12.**

# Varicella

- New ACIP recommendation (June 2007)
- Two doses of varicella vaccine more effective than one dose in preventing breakthrough cases
- Breakthrough mild but costly

- The vaccine requirements will be phased in until all intended grades are covered. The grade requirements advance two grades each year. For example, in the 2009-2010 school year students in grades K5, 1, 6, 7, 12 will need the second dose of varicella vaccine and students in grades 6, 7, 9, 10, and 12 will need Tdap vaccine.

# Are there any exceptions to the Tdap or varicella requirement?

- For Tdap vaccine, if a student received a tetanus-containing vaccine (eg. Td vaccine) within 5 years of entering the 6th, 9th or 12th grade that student is considered compliant and a Tdap booster dose is not required. The date of the Td vaccine should be provided on the Student Immunization Record in the space provided and returned to school.
- For Varicella vaccine, if a parent claims that their child had chickenpox, even after the 1st dose of varicella vaccine, that child is not required to receive varicella vaccine and is compliant with the law.

# Other Changes to HFS 144

- Ability to temporarily suspend vaccine requirements
- Revised definition of “written evidence of immunization”
- Language change for release of information between providers and schools or day cares

# **Does the case of varicella need to be diagnosed by a physician?**

**HFS 145**

**No. Parent/caregiver description of the illness and rash via telephone contact is sufficient to generate a case report.**

# What information should be included on the 4151?

- Complete the DEMOGRAPHIC DATA/PATIENT INFORMATION section.
- Report varicella immunization history in the MORBIDITY DATA section.
- Report an estimate of varicella severity in the VARICELLA section. In mild cases, there are a few scattered lesions on the body that can be counted in 30 seconds. In severe cases, lesions are clumped so closely together that it is difficult to see normal skin. Moderate cases fall between these two extremes.
- Lastly, report whether this case is epidemiologically-linked to another case of varicella in the VARICELLA section, including the epi-linked case name, if known.

# What does varicella disease look like?

## Examples of Varicella Cases

Mild



Moderate



Severe



# **Does HFS 144 Immunization of Students require exclusion of susceptible students in the event of a school outbreak of varicella?**

No. A definition of an outbreak of varicella was not available when the rules were revised. Varicella vaccination should be encouraged for susceptible students (i.e., those without parental history of disease or 0 or 1 dose of varicella vaccine).

# Pneumococcal (PCV)

- Required for licensed daycares beginning September 1, 2008
- Through age 4 years
  - 5 months – 15 months 2 doses
  - 16 months – 23 months 3 doses
  - 2 years – 4 years 3 doses