

Frequently Asked Questions

HINI, Tdap, MCV4, Varicella Vaccination Clinic

When and where is the clinic located?

The clinic is scheduled for February 18, 2010 3:00pm-9:00pm at the Hendricks County 4H Fairgrounds. The address is 1900 E. Main St., Danville, IN.

How do I register for the clinic?

You can register your child for the clinic by calling 317-745-9214 or emailing sthompson@co.hendricks.in.us. When registering, please provide the child's name, date of birth, and a phone number where we can reach you if needed.

Do I have to register my child? Can I just show up?

In order for the Hendricks County Health Department to plan accordingly, we need parents to register by February 12, 2010.

What if I can't bring my child on the 18th?

Many physician offices offer these vaccines. Parents are always encouraged to check with their child's physicians for the availability of these required immunizations. Also the Hendricks County Health Department offers these same vaccinations by appointment only during normal scheduled clinics. To schedule an appointment with the Hendricks County Health Department, please call 317-745-9222.

What do I need to bring to the clinic?

You will need to bring your child's **complete** vaccination record. If parents do not have a vaccination record, they can contact their child's provider for an up to date record.

Can someone other than me bring my child?

If a parent or legal guardian cannot bring the child, a written note of permission is needed from the parent/legal guardian stating that the accompanying adult is allowed to bring the child and sign the consent form. The accompanying adult needs to be capable of answering medical questions about the child (such as current medications, recent vaccinations, and health history).

If my child is 18, can he/she come by themselves?

Yes. However, parents are always encouraged to accompany their child.

Will the school accept a parent's note as proof of history of chickenpox disease?

The school is allowed to accept a parent or guardian's written and signed statement of the student's history of chickenpox disease. It must include the month and year of disease.

Note: This is only for students in grades 2-12. Kindergarten and first grade must have a physician's documentation of disease to give to the school.

Where can I find credible information on these new school required vaccines?

Vaccine Information Statements (VISs) on each vaccine will be available for your review at the February 18, 2010 clinic. If you would like to view these prior to the clinic, you may go to www.immunize.org/vis. For other information on vaccines, you may visit www.cdc.gov.

Does my adolescent need the Tdap vaccine if he/she already had the whooping cough (pertussis) disease or was vaccinated with DTaP?

Yes. Even people who have had the disease or have been fully vaccinated as children may be at risk of contracting pertussis. Studies have shown that immunity to pertussis begins to wane five to ten years after the person has the disease, or after the last vaccination. Pertussis is endemic in our community, meaning someone is always sick with pertussis. So people who are not protected, for whatever reason, can, and do, contract it.

Is it safe to give my adolescent Tdap vaccine if he/she has had a tetanus shot (Td) recently for an injury?

Yes. The typical recommended interval between Td and Tdap is five years. However, when pertussis protection is needed due to incidence of pertussis in the community, that interval may be shortened.

If this is my adolescent's first dose of chickenpox vaccine, do I need to wait a certain amount of time between this dose and the second dose?

Yes. If your adolescent is over age 13, there must be at least one month between the two doses. If your adolescent is under age 13, there must be at least 3 months between the

two doses. This age group difference has to do with the immune system's response to the vaccine at different ages.

Do any of these vaccines (Tdap, MCV4, Varicella, or H1N1) contain thimerosal as a preservative?

H1N1 vaccine multidose vials do contain thimerosal as a preservative.

My child has a cold. Can he/she still be vaccinated today?

We may administer vaccines to a person with a mild illness. However, if the child is running a high fever, or is moderately to severely ill, it is best to wait until they are healthy to vaccinate.

My child already received a meningitis/Menomune vaccine, but I was told it does not count toward next year's school requirement. Why is that?

That meningitis vaccine is a polysaccharide vaccine and has a short memory, which means the protection is short-term. The new vaccine (Menactra or MCV4) is a conjugated formula, and has long-term protection.

My adolescent had a serious reaction to a vaccine in the past. May my adolescent still come to the clinic on February 18, 2010 to be vaccinated?

If you feel your adolescent had a **SERIOUS** reaction to a vaccine in the past, the Feb. 18 mass clinic is not the optimal setting for your child to receive these vaccines. For children with this circumstance, please contact your physician.

Can my child still get these school required vaccines if he/she just received a vaccine recently?

One of the school required vaccines (chickenpox or varicella vaccine), is a live vaccine. You must have at least 28 days or more between live vaccines. Examples of live vaccines are: MMR, Chickenpox/varicella, seasonal or H1N1 flumist nasal spray, yellow fever, typhoid, and oral polio vaccines.