

WESTMOUNT C.I. - H1N1 (Human Swine Flu), Immunization & Anaphylaxis Information

H1N1 – HUMAN SWINE FLU

The following is an excerpt from the York Region Community and Health Services website
<http://www.york.ca/Departments/Health+Services/H1N1+Flu+Virus.htm>

“H1N1 flu virus is a respiratory illness that causes symptoms similar to those of the regular human seasonal flu. The symptoms include:

- headache, chills and cough followed by fever
- loss of appetite
- muscle aches and fatigue
- runny nose
- sneezing
- watery eyes and throat irritation
- nausea, vomiting and diarrhea may also occur

Should staff, students or clients attend school if they are ill?

If staff, students or clients are exhibiting flu-like symptoms they should stay home. Anyone with symptoms of the H1N1 flu virus is advised to contact their health care provider or call Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000. “

Current information about H1N1 can be obtained from the board’s website at <http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/page.cfm?id=CHSF00001> This contains links to the York Region Community and Health services, Public Health Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Health websites.

IMMUNIZATION

To remain in school, your child must have an up-to-date immunization record on file with York Region Health Services. They are required by law to keep immunization information for every child and children will be suspended from school if this information is not provided when York Region verifies their records each year. Children between the age of 14 and 16 will need their Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (Whooping cough) shot updated. This needle is required 10 years after it was first administered so you will have to check the date of your son/daughter’s last needle. If you are new to York Region the health department will need a complete list of immunizations. Update this information and book appointments now before you receive a suspension notice. Each time your child receives a vaccine you should:

1. Ask your doctor to update your child's yellow immunization record.
2. Keep your child's immunization record safe -it's the proof they need to go to school.
3. Let York Region Health Services know your child has received another vaccine by calling us at 1-877-794-1880, so they can update their computer file.

For more information go to:

<http://www.york.ca/Services/Public+Health+and+Safety/Immunization/default+Immunization+.htm>

ANAPHYLAXIS

The following is an excerpt from the YRDSB Anaphylaxis policy:

All students and staff are entitled to safe and healthy learning environments in our schools. This position constitutes a major challenge in those cases where a student has a life-threatening allergy (anaphylaxis). In order for this policy to apply, anyone suffering from anaphylaxis must be previously diagnosed by an allergist/physician who is responsible for prescribing the appropriate treatment. There are three key categories to consider in providing a safe environment for anaphylactic students:

- information and awareness for the entire school community;

- avoidance of the allergen that causes anaphylactic reactions, acknowledging that we cannot eliminate all allergens; and
- an emergency response procedure in case of accidental exposure.

Parents are responsible for:

- informing the school if their child has a diagnosed, life-threatening, allergy;
- completing the required documents necessary to ensure that the school has the most up-to-date information on their child; and
- providing the school with two in-date EpiPen®(s) in the event of an anaphylactic reaction.

Students are responsible for:

- carrying their EpiPen® with them at all times;
- making every effort to not come into contact with the product to which they are allergic; and
- alerting staff if they believe they have been accidentally exposed to an allergen.

If you have not completed the required documents please see Ms. Majnarich in the main office.