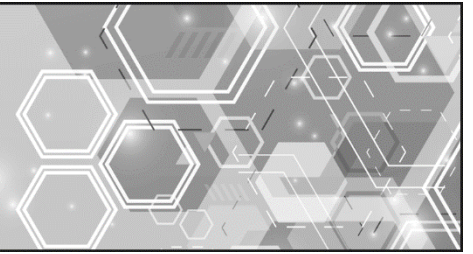




## Durham Region Health Department Facts about...



# Measles, Mumps, Rubella Vaccine

## What is it?

- The Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) vaccine, called M-M-R® II or Priorix® protects children against measles, mumps, and rubella.
- All three of these diseases are viruses that are spread easily from person to person.
- For more information on these diseases, see [Facts About...Measles](#), [Facts About...Mumps](#) and [Facts About...Rubella](#).

## How effective is the MMR vaccine?

- Children who get two doses of MMR vaccines have close to 100% protection against measles; 76% to 95% protection against mumps; 97% protection against rubella.
- People who have had the vaccine may still get one of these diseases. However, the recovery is faster and the symptoms tend to be milder.

## Who should get the vaccine?

- Children 12 months of age and older.
- People at risk of being exposed to the disease.
- Children 6 months of age or older who will be travelling outside of Canada to places where the disease is of concern or travelling to areas having outbreaks.
- Some people 6 months of age and older who are exposed to measles may be protected from measles disease if they are given the vaccine within 72 hours of their exposure. In Ontario, two doses of the MMR vaccine are required **after the first birthday** under the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* (ISPA).

## What is the schedule of the vaccine?

- Two doses of measles-containing vaccine are required: once at 12 to 15 months of age and again at 4 to 6 years of age.
- If there is not enough time between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of this vaccine a repeat dose will be needed.

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905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 | [durham.ca/health](http://durham.ca/health)

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.



## Are there side effects with the vaccine?

- MMR vaccine is safe and well tolerated. Side effects are usually mild and last a short time.
- The most common side effects are redness, pain and swelling where the needle was given. A rash can happen after getting the vaccine and if this happens talk to your health care provider.
- If you think a serious reaction is developing, **seek medical attention right away**. Any **strange** or **different** changes in your health or your child's health after getting the vaccine should be reported to a health care provider **and** to the Health Department.

## Who should NOT get the vaccine?

- Infants less than 6 months of age.
- If you have a severe allergy (anaphylaxis) to any previous vaccine(s) or to any part of the vaccine.
- Pregnant clients.

For more information on the contents of vaccines refer to the [Canadian Immunization Guide](#).

## Don't forget to update your immunization record!

For children in school or childcare, inform Durham Region Health Department of your child's vaccine. Health care providers do not report vaccines to the Health Department automatically. Keep your records updated and in a safe place.

After your child receives a vaccine, update Durham Region Health Department:

- Online at [durham.ca/immunize](https://durham.ca/immunize) (you may also attach a photo of your record).
- By calling 1-800-841-2729 or 905-666-6242.
- By faxing your vaccine/immunization record to 905-666-6216.

The [Immunization Connect Ontario \(ICON\)](#) tool allows you to see your child's vaccine/immunization record online anytime.

January 10, 2025

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