



# Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella Vaccine

## What is it?

- The Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Varicella (MMRV) vaccine, called Priorix Tetra™ or ProQuad™ protects children against measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella (chickenpox).
- All four 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](#), [Facts About...Rubella](#) and [Facts About...Chickenpox](#).

## How effective is the MMRV vaccine?

- Children who get two doses of MMR and varicella vaccines have close to 100% protection against measles; 76% to 95% protection against mumps; 97% protection against rubella; 98% protection against varicella.
- 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 4 to 12 years of age. In Ontario, two doses of MMR vaccine are required after the first birthday under the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* (ISPA). In addition, two doses of varicella vaccine are required after first birthday for students born in 2010 or later.

## What is the schedule of the vaccine?

- Two doses of any chickenpox containing vaccine are required for people 4 to 12 years of age. The recommended interval for chickenpox containing vaccine is 3 months with a minimum interval of 6 weeks.
- 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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# Are there side effects with the vaccine?

- MMRV 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. 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 receiving the vaccine should be reported to a health care provider **and** to the Health Department.

# Who should NOT get the vaccine?

- Children less than 4 years or older than 12 years 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.

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