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FAX about...



Vaccine Safety in Ontario

The Annual Report on Vaccine Safety in Ontario, 2018 is now available. It provides important information about the safety of vaccines to support health care professionals, reassure the public, and build confidence in immunization. The report can be found at:

<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/health-topics/immunization/vaccine-safety>

Serious events after vaccinations are **very rare**, about 2.4 in every 1 million doses distributed. The adverse event following immunization (AEFI) reporting rate increased from 4.9 per 100,000 in 2017 to 5.1 per 100,000 population in 2018. This increase in AEFI reporting may be an indicator of a robust vaccine safety surveillance system, rather than a vaccine safety concern or increase in incidence rate. **In 2018 there were no unexpected vaccine safety issues.**

Quick Facts:

- Most people who receive vaccines experience no side effects.
- An adverse reaction or event is an unwanted or unexpected health effect that happens after someone is vaccinated. It may or may not be caused by the vaccine.
- Ongoing surveillance of AEFIs in Ontario is needed to monitor vaccine safety and to assess and interpret trends.
- In 2018, Durham Region Health Department had 53 AEFI reports of the 742 reported in Ontario, with a reporting rate of 7.7 per 100,000 compared to the Ontario reporting rate of 5.1 per 100,000 population.
- Use the interactive Vaccine Surveillance Safety Tool to explore vaccine safety surveillance data in Ontario <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/data-and-analysis/infectious-disease/vaccine-safety#/trends>

Report AEFIs to the Durham Region Health Department by completing a copy of the **Ontario Report of Adverse Event Following Immunization** form available on Durham.ca/HCP (under Reporting tab). This form can be faxed to 905-666-6216.

Durham Region Health Department: 905-668-7711, 1-800-841-2729

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If you prefer to receive this information in an electronic format please submit your request to healthresources@durham.ca

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