



Houston County Health Department

Physical Health

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Houston County Board of Education Employee Vaccination

Promoting health through the prevention of vaccine preventable diseases is a critical part of ensuring safe and healthy work and learning environments. In a school setting, vaccination of adults protects both faculty and staff as well as vulnerable children from exposure to vaccine preventable diseases. Adults in a school setting may be exposed to the following:

Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis (whooping cough)- Pertussis is virus spread through tiny respiratory droplets that causes severe, prolonged cough, respiratory complications, and the potential for seizures due to extreme coughing. Tetanus is a bacterium that lives in the soil. If unvaccinated, exposure is often fatal and causes tetany (rigidity) of muscles of the body including the heart and diaphragm. Exposure can occur when bacteria in the soil enters the body through a break in the skin.

- Hepatitis A- A viral illness that affects the liver. Virus is spread through contaminated food and drinking water and through exposure to fecal matter through unwashed/poorly washed hands.
Hepatitis B- A chronic viral illness that affects the liver. The virus is spread through exposure to contaminated blood or body fluids.
Influenza (Flu)- A viral illness that is spread through respiratory droplets of infected people.

If contracted, each of these infections pose serious health risks and lifetime health complications. However, these infections are preventable through proper vaccination. For this reason, a voluntary vaccination program with your organization has begun in collaboration with the Houston County Health Department.

In order to make recommendations regarding your individual immunization status, nurses at the Houston County Health Department must have your permission to look for your vaccination records in the Georgia Registry of Immunization Services (GRITS) and the Health Department database. Once vaccination records are assessed, the nurses will make individual recommendations for vaccination and will review these recommendations with you in person during the school-based flu clinic. You will be offered vaccination based on these recommendations. Vaccinations will be provided at no out-of-pocket expense for those individuals who have Blue Cross Blue Shield insurance. Vaccination will be offered at no out-of-pocket expense to uninsured employees. Employees with other types of insurance may be vaccinated however, insurance coverage cannot be guaranteed.

Please complete the information below which will give the nursing staff of the Houston County Health Department permission to review your immunization history. Once completed, return this form to your supervisor by the deadline that you have been given.

First Name: _____ MI: _____ Last Name: _____
Maiden Name: _____ DOB: _____

By signing below, I give my consent for the nursing staff of the Houston County Health Department to use the GRITS system and the Health Department database to look-up and evaluate my personal vaccination records.

Signature: _____ Date _____



We Protect Lives.