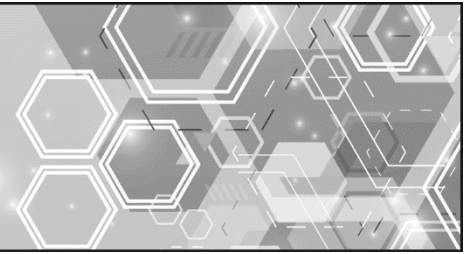




## Durham Region Health Department Facts about...



# 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 receive 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.

In Ontario, two doses of MMR vaccine are required **after the first birthday** under the *Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA)*.

## What is the schedule of the vaccine?

- 2 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 a live vaccine, a repeat dose will be needed.



## 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 occur after immunization and if this happens talk to your health care provider.
- If you think a serious reaction is developing, **seek medical attention right away**. Any **unusual or significant** 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?

- Infants less than 6 months of age
- If you have a severe allergy (anaphylaxis) to any previous(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!

After you or your child receives a vaccine, update your immunization record (yellow card). For children in school or childcare, please visit [durham.ca/immunize](https://durham.ca/immunize) to report online, or call the Health Department to update your child's immunization records. Keep your records in a safe place!

February 19, 2021

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

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

