

For Your Information

News for Health Care Providers in
Peterborough County and City



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Infectious Disease Update

REPORTING ADVERSE VACCINE REACTIONS TO THE HEALTH UNIT

What is an Adverse Event Following Immunization (AEFI)?

An AEFI is any untoward medical occurrence in a vaccinee which follows immunization and which does not necessarily have a causal relationship with the administration of the vaccine. The adverse event may be any unfavourable and/or unintended sign, abnormal laboratory finding, symptom or disease.

Should all AEFIs be reported?

No. During their development, vaccines undergo rigorous testing for safety and efficacy. During these “pre-licensure trials” efforts are made to capture every single adverse event that follows immunization.

By the time a vaccine is authorized for marketing, the safety profile for common adverse events such as inflammation at the vaccination site or mild fever is well known. It is always important to counsel vaccinees or their guardians regarding the possible occurrence of such reactions, but there is no need to report such expected events unless they are more severe or more frequent than expected. Expected adverse events are listed in the product monograph for each vaccine.

What type of AEFI should be reported?

AEFIs should be reported when the event:

- Has a temporal association with a vaccine (unrelated or by chance).
- Has no other clear cause at the time of reporting: A causal relationship between immunization and the event that follows does not need to be proven and submitting a report does not imply or establish causality.

Sometimes the vaccinee’s medical history, recent disease, concurrent illness/condition and/or concomitant medication(s) can explain the event(s).

Of particular interest are those AEFIs which:

- Meet one or more of the seriousness criteria: An adverse event that is life threatening or results in death, requires hospitalization or prolongation of an existing hospitalization, results in residual disability or causes congenital malformation.
- Are unexpected regardless of seriousness: An event that has either not been identified previously or one that has been identified previously but is, at current, being reported at an increased frequency.

Supplementary Information on Completing the AEFI Form

Treatment of all AEFIs should proceed, as appropriate, prior to completing the AEFI form. Following the immediate care of the vaccine recipient, the AEFI form can be completed with all available information.

Sections 3 – 8 should be completed in entirety.

Section 9 - AEFI Details

Indicate the details of the AEFI being reported by checking all that apply. All additional pertinent details (e.g., results of medical investigations, laboratory test, treatment, etc.) should be provided in section 10.

For all AEFIs, indicate the time to onset or interval (time from immunization to onset of first symptom/sign), and the duration

...continued page 2

In This Issue:

- Expansion of the HPV Publicly Funded Immunization Program
- Breastfeeding Support in Peterborough

(time from onset of first symptom/sign to resolution of all of signs and symptoms).

- If the time to onset/interval or the time to resolution is less than one (1) hour, record in minutes.
- If the time to onset/interval or the time to resolution is greater than or equal to one (1) hour, but less than one (1) day, record in hours.
- If the time to onset/interval or the time to resolution is greater than or equal to one (1) day, record in days.

Section 10 - Supplementary Information

This section should be used to capture information that is pertinent to the AEFI but that has not been fully captured elsewhere or that needs further explanation. Document all known details of any investigations or treatments for the recorded AEFI. Indicate the section of the AEFI report that the information applies to, if applicable, when recording information in section 10.

Section 11 - Recommendations for Further Immunization

This section is to be completed by the Medical Officer of Health (MOH). In Ontario, the MOH provides recommendations for future immunizations.

For more information or clarification see: <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/im/pdf/AEFI-ug-gu-eng.pdf>

The AEFI Reporting form can found at <http://www.pcchu.ca/for-professionals/health-professionals/vaccines>
Once the form has been completed, fax it to the Health Unit at 705-743-2897.

Expansion of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Publicly Funded Immunization Program

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (the ministry) will be expanding Ontario's Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Immunization Program to include a catch-up program for eligible females.

Effective September 2012, female students who have not completed their HPV immunization series or did not receive the HPV vaccine in Grade 8, may receive publicly funded HPV vaccine until the end of Grade 12. In addition, a one-time catch-up program will be offered from September 2012 to June 2013 for females in the 2007/2008 school cohort year who are no longer in high school.

Healthcare providers are asked to check with eligible patients if they have received all three doses of the vaccine. If patients are unsure, they can contact the Health Unit at 705-743-1000. Further information about delivery of the expanded HPV immunization program will be made available in the fall.

Contact the Vaccine Preventable Disease Program for further information, 705-743-1000

Breastfeeding Support in Peterborough

Despite the well documented evidence to support the importance of breastfeeding for infants and mothers, many families do not continue exclusive breastfeeding for the recommended first six months of life. A recent Cochrane review highlighted that professional and peer support are both effective at improving breastfeeding duration and exclusivity.¹ The following provides an inventory of what's available in our community to support breastfeeding women.

Prenatal Education

The decision to breastfeed is often made prior to conception, or in the early prenatal period. Support and education from healthcare providers during the prenatal period is invaluable and can result in increased breastfeeding.

- The **Health Unit** offers prenatal classes which cover a variety of topics from the birth experience to infant care. A comprehensive two-hour session is spent learning about breastfeeding. Adult and teen classes are available. The teen series is free and the adult series costs \$50. This fee can be subsidized if it presents a barrier to attending classes. To register for prenatal classes call 705-743-1000.
- The **Peterborough Family Resource Centre** offers a free two-hour prenatal breastfeeding class every second month. To register call 705-748-9144.

Clinics

- The **Peterborough Regional Health Centre** (PRHC) provides a breastfeeding clinic for outpatients every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoon. A Lactation Consultant meets with both pre- and postnatal clients, and is also able to provide telephone support. The clinic is located on the Maternal Child Unit (A6 – Room 107) at PRHC. To schedule an appointment call 705-743-2121, ext. 107.
- The **Peterborough Family Resource Centre** (PFRC) at 201 Antrim Street provides a *Well Baby and Breastfeeding Clinic* every Thursday from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. A Community Health Nurse/Lactation Consultant is able to provide one-to-one support for mothers of babies up to two years of age. No appointment necessary. PFRC is closed July and August.



Telephone Support

The Family HEALTHline at the **Health Unit** is available Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Public Health Nurses with additional training in lactation management can provide telephone consultation and support.

Peer Support

Support from other breastfeeding women increases breastfeeding duration, exclusive breastfeeding, and overall satisfaction with breastfeeding.

In our community the **Peterborough La Leche League** can provide peer support by telephone and by drop-in groups. To speak to a trained facilitator, women can call 705-760-6188. The group meets the second Thursday of every month at 6:00 p.m. (free dinner) and the fourth Thursday at 10:00 a.m., at PFRC, 201 Antrim Street. Telephone support is available year round. Drop-in groups are not held in July or August.

For more information about breastfeeding supports in the Peterborough City and County call the Health Unit at 705-743-1000 ext. 289.

References

1. Renfrew, M.J., Britton, C., McCormick, F.M., Wade, A., & King, S.E. (2012). Support for healthy breastfeeding mothers with healthy term babies. Cochrane Database of Systemic Reviews. 2012 (5).

Educational Opportunities

Upcoming Events

Thursday, September 20, 2012 - 6:30 p.m.

Special Presentation on Antibiotic Resistant Organisms and Infection Control

Presenter: *Dr. Dick Zoutman*

Location: Evinrude Centre, Peterborough

For more details, call 705-743-1000, ext. 139

Thursday, September 27, 2012

Long-term Care Education Day 2012

89 Chestnut Street, Toronto, Ontario

Topics include: oral hygiene, C. difficile infection, foot care and more...

Brought to you by:

Toronto Public Health, Toronto and Area Professionals in Infection Control, and Public Health Ontario - Regional Infection Control Networks

For more details, call 1 866-562-0848 or email: sharon.ormsby@oahpp.ca

Details on other Educational Opportunities are available by visiting the "For Health Professionals" page on www.pcchu.ca or [//www.ricn.on.ca/](http://www.ricn.on.ca/)

Resources for HCPs

NEW: Opioid Advice Series

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and health partners have collaborated to provide information on the management/detection of:

- Opioid Intoxication
- Acute Opioid Withdrawal in Non-Pregnant Patients
- Opioid Dependence in Pregnancy and Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS)
- Switching Opioids Safely to Prevent Overdose

These information sheets can be accessed at:

http://knowledgex.camh.net/opioid_alert/Pages/default.aspx

Cancer Screening Order Form

www.pcchu.ca under "For Health Professionals"

Resources for Patients

Visit our website www.pcchu.ca for information on:

Breastfeeding

Tobacco Free Living

Blue-Green Algae

Trichloroethylene (TCE)

and many other health topics.

Health Events for Patients

Supermarket Tours

Patients can tour your local grocery store with a Registered Dietitian guiding them to the healthiest food choices! Open to everyone in the community who would like to eat healthier to prevent disease and enhance health and well-being. Offered free of charge; limited to 15 participants.

For information and to register, contact the Canadian Diabetes Association, call 705-742-2733 or e-mail diabetes@trytel.net

Prenatal Classes

Classes are ongoing from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (please call for class dates). All classes are held at the Peterborough County-City Health Unit, 10 Hospital Drive, Peterborough. The cost is \$50.00 and subsidies are available. Please let us know if the fee would prevent your patient from attending.

To register, call the Peterborough County-City Health Unit 743-1000, ext. 215 or 282.

Looking for a specific health topic?

Visit the FYI Newsletter archive at www.pcchu.ca