



Northwestern
Health Unit

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March 5, 2018

Health Advisory: Mumps update for health care providers

Regionally, as of March 1, 2018, there continues to be ongoing transmission of mumps cases in three communities. No additional communities have been affected but there may be a risk to other communities in the region.

The main outbreak control measure for mumps is immunization. At this time, immunization efforts are focusing on increasing the number of community members with 2 doses of mumps-containing vaccine (MMR or MMRV, depending on age).

Target groups for immunization are:

- Children.
- Adults born on/after 1970 who have contact with youth e.g. parents teachers, coaches etc.
- Adults born from 1970 to 1992 who are likely to have only 1 MMR vaccine.

Due to the current risk of mumps in the region, adults born in 1970 or later should receive a second lifetime dose of MMR, unless they have documented vaccination with 2 doses of MMR; or history of mumps disease or there is a medical contraindication; this is in accordance with the MOHLTC publicly funded schedule: high risk. Those born before 1970 are a lower priority as they are likely immune due to widespread circulation of mumps prior to vaccine introduction.

Recommended diagnostic testing for mumps:

- Buccal swab AND urine for [mumps diagnostic PCR](#)
AND
- [Mumps diagnostic serology](#)
 - important to differentiate from immunity testing
 - Recent MMR/MMRV immunization will impact both serology and PCR tests and should be noted on the requisition.

If a patient is suspected of mumps, please notify Northwestern Health Unit.

Dr. Kit Young-Hoon, Medical Officer of Health
Northwestern Health Unit
210 First Street North
Kenora, ON P9N 2K4
(807) 468-3147
(807) 468-7109 (after hours)