



**Northwestern
Health Unit**

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Health Care Provider Advisory: Pertussis vaccine in pregnancy

Issue:

The National Advisory Committee on Immunization recently released a statement recommending pertussis-containing vaccine for all pregnant women during the third trimester of every pregnancy, regardless of duration since last pertussis-containing vaccine. The full text of the NACI statement explains the recommendation.

Currently, this usage of vaccine is not part of the MOHLTC's publicly funded schedule. This means the vaccine may have to be prescribed and purchased by the patient for administration. The vaccine IS publicly funded for one adult dose (lifetime).

Action:

Consider recommending Adacel vaccine (tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis) to all pregnant women in third trimester who do not have medical contraindications. The strongest recommendation is to offer the vaccine at 27-32 weeks gestation.

Vaccine from your on-site fridge, supplied by the MOHLTC, can be used for women who have not yet had one adult dose of Adacel.

Women who have already received one publicly funded dose of Adacel will need to purchase through a pharmacy.

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