



**Northwestern
Health Unit**

www.nwhu.on.ca

For immediate release
October 25, 2018

Media Alert: Vaccine Shortage

There is a national shortage of the following vaccines that are not covered by OHIP:

Vaccine	Projected date shortage will end
Hepatitis A	31 Dec 2018
Hepatitis B	31 Dec 2018
Rabies	24 Oct 2018 for one product; 30 June 2019 for other product

This shortage will mostly affect travelers and those who need these immunizations for their work. Currently, the Northwestern Health Unit does not have the vaccines listed above for sale and they cannot be ordered by pharmacies. Travel health clinics in Winnipeg or Thunder Bay that had stock before the shortage may have some doses available for purchase.

There is no shortage for publicly funded vaccines. This includes rabies vaccine needed after an animal bite, school-based hepatitis B vaccines, and high risk preventive hepatitis A and B vaccines.

The shortages are temporary. Shortages and expected dates that the vaccines will be back in stock can be found at [here](#). For a certain product, click on “view report”.

-30-

Media Contact:

Donna Stanley
Manager, Infectious Diseases
Northwestern Health Unit
807-223-3301 ext. 302520
dstanley@nwhu.on.ca

