



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE
Oxiris Barbot, MD
Commissioner

August 29, 2019

Dear Colleague,

The New York City (NYC) Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), Bureau of Immunization, would like to make sure you are aware of recent changes to the immunization requirements and information that was sent by the New York State (NYS) Department of Health Office of Professional Medical Conduct.

As a reminder, children attending school and child care programs must be in compliance with NYS-mandated [immunization requirements](#). Children must receive valid immunization doses administered at intervals in accordance with the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices ([ACIP](#)) routine and catch-up (table 2) schedule. Alternative schedules and spacing out of vaccines are not allowed. Children who are in the process of receiving the required immunizations, but are not yet in compliance, are required to provide documentation of a medical appointment(s) to receive the next age-appropriate dose within each vaccine series to the school or child care program. Please provide this information to the parent so the child can remain in the school or child care program. In general, if a child is listed as complete for a vaccine series in the NYC [Citywide Immunization Registry \(CIR\)](#), they are in compliance with school and child care requirements for that vaccine series. Please be aware that the CIR is still using the previous 2008 version of the Child & Adolescent Health Examination Form (CH-205) and that both the 2008 and 2016 versions are valid forms and either one should be accepted.

We are also forwarding the attached [notice to providers](#) from the NYS Department of Health Office of Professional Medical Conduct regarding the June 13, 2019 legislation removing religious exemptions for required vaccinations, updated [medical exemption request guidelines](#), instances of invalid medical exemption requests and apparent falsification of medical records in the NYS Immunization Information System (NYSIIS) and the NYC CIR.

NYS-licensed physicians may submit requests for medical exemptions for children attending school and child care programs only if they have [valid contraindications](#) to immunizations in accordance with ACIP. These medical exemption requests are subject to review and additional supporting medical documentation may be requested. Medical exemption requests must be resubmitted annually on a medical exemption form approved by [NYC](#) or [NYS](#).

For questions about immunization requirements, please call (347) 396-2400. Thank you for your continuing efforts to protect children in NYC from vaccine-preventable illnesses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jane R. Zucker'.

Jane R. Zucker, MD, MSc
Assistant Commissioner
Bureau of Immunization