

HALTON REGION PUBLIC HEALTH • Office of the Medical Officer of Health

TEL: 905-825-6000 • TOLL FREE: 1-866-442-5866 • FAX: 905-825-1444

TO: Halton Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Emergency Departments, other Healthcare Providers

FROM: Dr. Joanna Oda, Associate Medical Officer of Health

DATE: September 26, 2023

RE: New respiratory illness webinar added to October 4 webinar re. “Why is my patient getting a school suspension warning letter? How the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* impacts your practice”

QUICK FACTS

- Due to popular request, Public Health has added a Primary Care Town Hall session at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, October 4, focusing on Flu, COVID-19 and the upcoming respiratory illness season, immediately following the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* CME.
- Please [use the same registration link to sign up for either presentation](#), or both, and join at any time. Share with any colleagues that may be interested.
- Any interested healthcare professional is welcome to register.
- Register now for the upcoming Mainpro+ accredited webinar (October 4 from 7-8 p.m.), [Public Health Updates for Halton Physicians: Focus on Immunization – Why is my patient getting a school suspension warning letter? How the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* impacts your practice.](#)
- To prevent infectious diseases from spreading among children and adolescents at school who are not vaccinated, Halton Region Public Health has resumed enforcement of the *Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA)*, beginning with high school students in the 2023-2024 school year.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [Public Health Updates for Halton Physicians: Focus on Immunization](#), Halton Region Public Health
- [School Based Vaccines Information for Physicians](#), Halton Region Public Health
- [Publicly Funded Immunization Schedules for Ontario](#), June 2022, Ministry of Health
- [Influenza in Halton](#), Halton Region Public Health
- [COVID-19 in Halton](#), Halton Region Public Health

Please report all suspected/confirmed cases of [Diseases of Public Health Significance](#) (only report COVID-19 cases occurring in high-risk settings) to Public Health immediately by calling 311, 905-825-6000 or toll free at 1-866-442-5866.

PLEASE PROVIDE A COPY TO ALL PHYSICIANS IN YOUR OFFICE AND/OR POST IN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS AND PHYSICIAN LOUNGES. IF YOU HAVE ANY ISSUES WITH THIS ATTACHMENT, PLEASE EMAIL DOCTORS@HALTON.CA.

NEW!

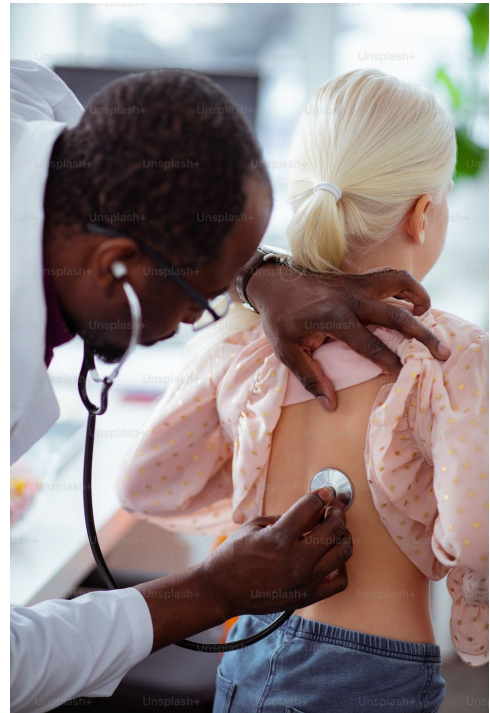
Primary Care Town Hall: Flu, COVID-19 and the upcoming respiratory illness season

Since the pandemic, seasonal respiratory pathogens (including COVID-19) have exhibited atypical timing, with higher rates of infection starting earlier in the fall and circulating longer into the winter and spring. Join Halton Region Public Health to learn about the outlook for the 2023-24 respiratory virus season, how to stop the spread, therapeutics and an immunization update for flu and COVID-19. Primary care town hall added immediately following the immunization CME from 7-9 p.m. due to popular request.

Date: Wednesday, October 4, 2023

Time: 8-9 p.m. (following the accredited CME on the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* and preventing school suspension for your patients)

Register: Online ([registration form for ISPA CME and respiratory Town Hall](#))



Keynote Speakers:

Dr. Deepika Lobo, Acting Medical Officer of Health, Halton Region Public Health

Dr. Joanna Oda, Associate Medical Officer of Health, Halton Region Public Health

Join us on from 7-8 p.m. on the same day (Wednesday, October 4) at a Mainpro+ accredited webinar on how the *Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA)* can impact your practice and your patients. [Register using the same link](#) and join at any time.

Webinar invitation – Public Health Updates for Halton Physicians: Focus on immunization

Why is my patient getting a school suspension warning letter?

How the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* impacts your practice

To prevent infectious diseases from spreading among children and adolescents at school who are not vaccinated, Halton Region Public Health has resumed enforcement of the *Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA)*, beginning with high school students in the 2023-2024 school year. Learn about vaccines required for school attendance, the importance of parents reporting vaccines to Public Health and the upcoming *ISPA* enforcement program in Halton.

Date: Wednesday, October 4, 2023

Time: 7-8 p.m.

Register: Online ([registration form](#))



Learning objectives:

Overall series learning objective:

By attending the Public Health Updates for Halton Physicians series, participants will be able to identify and discuss relevant and recent information about approaches to the prevention, diagnosis and management of key public health issues impacting their family medicine practice in both rural and urban settings.

Learning objectives for this session:

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Describe local immunization coverage and reporting rates for the publicly funded, school-aged program in Halton and how Halton compares to provincial coverage rates.
- Outline what vaccines are included under the *Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA)* and the difference between medical and non-medical exemptions.
- Understand the *Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA)* process and how physicians can support families and avoid school suspension by following the Act.

Submit your questions in advance through the registration form.

Keynote Speaker:



Dr. Joanna Oda, MD, MHSc, FRCPC

Associate Medical Officer of Health,
Halton Region Public Health