

First Shots Best Shot

Childhood
vaccines
at work in
Canada



Childhood immunization: Websites and resources

Canadian sites

Canadian Paediatric Society

www.cps.ca: The CPS website includes all position statements published by the Infectious Diseases and Immunization Committee. It's recommended for health care professionals and others who want detailed, scientific information about vaccines and vaccine-preventable diseases. The Immunization Competencies Educational Program is available at www.cps.ca/English/ProEdu/OnlineEdu.htm

www.caringforkids.cps.ca: Caring for Kids is a website for parents developed and maintained by the Canadian Paediatric Society. It contains easy-to-read documents on vaccines and immunization, as well as many other pages on child and youth health, safety, growth and development.

Public Health Agency of Canada, Immunization and Vaccines

www.phac-aspc.gc.ca: Here you'll find information and recommendations from the National Advisory Committee on Immunization, routine vaccination schedules, and an online version of the *Canadian Immunization Guide*. Also, two excellent downloadable resources: *Immunization Competencies for Health Professionals*, at www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/im/pdf/ichp-cips-eng.pdf, and *A Parent's Guide to Vaccination*, at www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/im/iyc-vve/pgi-gpv/index-eng.php.

Canadian Coalition for Immunization Awareness and Promotion

www.immunize.ca: The Canadian Coalition for Immunization Awareness and Promotion is a group of health and medical organizations, managed through the Canadian Public Health Association. Publications and resources for families, health care providers and the media are available at their website, along with specialized information for travellers, children and teens.

American sites

American Academy of Pediatrics

www.aap.org: The AAP website includes the organization's policy statements on immunization, as well as other issues.

www.cispimmunize.org: The Childhood Immunization Support Program (CISP) was started by the American Academy of Pediatrics in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. CISP supports U.S. paediatricians delivering vaccines and provides education and resources on immunization and related issues. The CISP website features videos of immunizations and pages devoted to research, Q&As for families, resources for health care providers and more.

Books

Gold, Ronald (2006) *Your Child's Best Shot: A Parent's Guide to Vaccination*, 3rd edition. Ottawa: Canadian Paediatric Society.

Fisher, Margaret C. (2006) *Immunization and Infectious Diseases: An Informed Parent's Guide*. Elk Grove Village, Ill.: American Academy of Pediatrics.

Ministère de la Santé et des Services Sociaux du Québec (2008). *Prévention et contrôle des infections dans les services de garde à l'enfance*. Gouvernement du Québec <http://publications.msss.gouv.qc.ca/acrobat/f/documentation/2008/08-284-02.pdf>.

Professional Education Working Group of the Canadian Immunization Committee (Public Health Agency of Canada, 2008). *Immunization Competencies for Health Professionals in Canada*. Download at no cost from www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/im/pdf/ichp-cips-eng.pdf.

Public Health Agency of Canada (2009). *A Parent's Guide to Vaccination*. Download at no cost from www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/im/iyv-vve/pgi-gpv/index-eng.php.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

www.cdc.gov/vaccines: The Vaccines and Immunizations section of CDC's website has many resources for parents, including a booklet called *Parents' Guide to Childhood Immunization*, which contains straightforward information on vaccine-preventable diseases. There are publications and fact sheets for the public, recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, and vaccine information statements for parents. The Vaccine Safety section of CDC's website has information on precautions and contraindications, possible side effects, monitoring, and ongoing studies, as well as a list of reliable resources.

Immunization Action Coalition

www.immunize.org: While this site is most suited to health professionals, it also includes personal accounts of people affected by vaccine-preventable diseases, downloadable handouts on many vaccine and immunization topics, and a directory of resources.

Institute for Vaccine Safety, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

www.vaccinesafety.edu: This site includes information on vaccines, the diseases they prevent, and commentaries on current vaccine safety issues.

Institute of Medicine (IOM)

www.iom.edu: The IOM is the health arm of the U.S. Academy of Sciences. Its website contains ongoing studies and reports on various immunization safety topics.

National Network for Immunization Information (NNii)

www.immunizationinfo.org: NNii is an affiliation of several U.S. medical organizations, including the Infectious Diseases Society of America, the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society and the American Academy of Pediatrics. It provides up-to-date, science-based information to health care professionals, the media and the public. The site has a searchable database on vaccine-preventable diseases, information on vaccine research and policy, and guidelines on evaluating online information. PowerPoint presentations on vaccine safety issues are downloadable at no cost.

Parents of Kids with Infectious Diseases (PKIDS)

www.pkids.org: This site contains current, approachable information for families about immunization with interactive formats, age and gender specific websites, blogs and videos. An "Ask the Experts" feature enables users to e-mail their questions.

Vaccine Education Center at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

www.vaccine.chop.edu: This site aims to provide complete, up-to-date and reliable vaccine information to parents and health professionals, including DVDs, videos and tear-sheets, as well as a monthly e-newsletter for parents.

