

## CHANGES IN TEXAS IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Recently changes were made to the “Immunization Requirements for Children and Students in Texas Public and Private Schools”. These changes include:

**Hepatitis A Vaccine:** Beginning August 1, 2009, all students entering kindergarten, statewide, will be required to have 2 doses of Hepatitis A vaccine.

**Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) Vaccine:** Beginning August 1, 2009, all students entering kindergarten will be required to have two doses of measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine.

**Varicella Vaccine:** Beginning August 1, 2009, all students entering kindergarten and 7<sup>th</sup> grade will be required to have 2 doses of varicella vaccine. A written statement from a parent (or legal guardian or managing conservator), school nurse, or physician attesting to a child’s positive history of varicella disease (chickenpox), or of varicella immunity, is acceptable in lieu of either dose of varicella vaccine.

**Tetanus, Diphtheria and acellular pertussis-containing vaccine (Tdap):** Beginning August 1, 2009, all students entering the seventh grade will be required to have one dose of Tdap vaccine. Students in the seventh grade will be required to have a booster dose of Tdap only if it has been five years since their last dose of a tetanus-containing vaccine. Students in grades 8-12 are required to have a booster dose of Tdap if it has been ten years since their previous dose of a tetanus-containing vaccine. Td is acceptable in lieu of Tdap if a contraindication to pertussis exists.

**Meningococcal Vaccine:** Beginning August 1, 2009, all students entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade will be required to have one dose of meningococcal vaccine.