



IMMUNIZATION POLICY ACKNOWLEDGMENT

ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON – Catholic Schools

ALL PARENTS OF STUDENTS ATTENDING ARCHDIOCESAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MUST READ THIS FORM, SIGN BELOW, AND RETURN IT TO YOUR CHILD’S SCHOOL WITH THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE.

To All Parents of Students in Archdiocesan Catholic Schools in the District of Columbia

It is the policy of the Archdiocese of Washington that all students attending schools in the archdiocese must be fully immunized in accordance with the immunization requirements against contagious diseases published by the local department of health. There are no exemptions permitted. Only if your child has a valid medical contraindication to being immunized against a contagious disease, and such contraindication is documented by a physician, will a temporary exemption be permitted.

Immunization in accordance with the Archdiocese of Washington’s policy is a condition for admission into all archdiocesan Catholic schools. To be admitted to attend classes, there must be two forms related to immunization on file at your child’s school by the first day of school, and they are:

1. THIS FORM, completed and signed; and
2. DC Universal Health Certificate, signed by a medical provider and parents (Pages 2 and 3).

Acknowledgment

To All Parents/Guardians: Please provide the following information and sign below to acknowledge that you understand and agree to this policy.

Child’s Name: _____
Last First M.I. (Jr., III)

School: Holy Trinity School Sex: Date of Birth: _____
Male Female mm/dd/yyyy

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Home Phone: () - _____

Home Address: _____
Street Address Suite #

City State ZIP Code

I have read and understand the Archdiocese of Washington’s Immunization policy listed above:

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____
Please Sign mm/dd/yyyy

To Parents of Rising 6th Grade Girls Only:

In addition to the District of Columbia Universal Health Certificate, you will be receiving information issued by the District of Columbia government concerning the new Human Papillomavirus (“HPV”) Vaccine. You have also received a letter from the Bishop, containing information about HPV in light of Catholic teaching.

As parents of a rising 6th grade girl, if you have decided to opt out of the HPV vaccine for any reason, then you must complete the Human Papillomavirus Vaccine Refusal Form (Page 7) in addition to pages 1, 2, and 3 listed above.

Please check here if you chose to opt out of the HPV vaccine, and have returned the HPV Refusal Form:



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE

Part 1: Child's Personal Information

Parent/Guardian: Please complete Part 1 clearly and completely & sign Part 5 below.

Form for Part 1: Child's Personal Information. Fields include: Child's Last Name, Child's First & Middle Name, Date of Birth, Gender, Race/Ethnicity, Parent or Guardian Name, Telephone, Home Address, Emergency Contact Person, Emergency Number, City/State, Zip code, School or Child Care Facility, Insurance, and Primary Care Provider (PCP).

Part 2: Child's Health History, Examination & Recommendations

Health Provider: Form must be fully completed.

Form for Part 2: Child's Health History, Examination & Recommendations. Fields include: DATE OF HEALTH EXAM, WT, LBS, HT, IN, BP, Body Mass Index (BMI), HGB / HCT, Vision Screening, Glasses, Hearing Screening, HEALTH CONCERNS (Asthma, Seizure, Diabetes, Language/Speech, Development/Behavioral, Other), and ANNUAL DENTIST VISIT.

A. Significant health history, conditions, communicable illness, or restrictions that may affect school, child care, sports, or camp. NONE YES, please detail:

B. Significant food/medication/environmental allergies that may require emergency medical care at school, child care, camp, or sports activity. NONE YES, please detail:

C. Long-term medications, over-the-counter-drugs (OTC) or special care requirements. NONE YES, please detail (For any medications or treatment required during school hours, a Physician's Medication Authorization Order should be submitted with this form)

Part 3: Tuberculosis & Lead Exposure Risk Assessment & Testing:

Form for Part 3: Tuberculosis & Lead Exposure Risk Assessment & Testing. Fields include: TB RISK ASSESSMENTS, Tuberculin Skin Test (TST) DATE, LEAD EXPOSURE RISKS, LEAD TEST DATE, RESULT, and Health Provider information.

Part 4: Required Provider Certification and Signature

Form for Part 4: Required Provider Certification and Signature. Includes checkboxes for YES/NO regarding health examination, sports clearance, and health screening requirements. Includes fields for Print Name, MD/NP Signature, Date, Address, Phone, and Fax.

Part 5: Required Parental/Guardian Signatures. (Release of Health Information)

Form for Part 5: Required Parental/Guardian Signatures. Includes a permission statement and fields for Print Name, Signature, and Date.

*For use by the Archdiocese of Washington's Catholic Schools in the District of Columbia.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE

Student's Name: _____ / _____ / _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____
Last First Middle Mo. Day Yr.

Sex: Male Female School or Child Care Facility: _____

Section 1: Immunization: Please fill in or attach equivalent copy with provider signature and date.

IMMUNIZATIONS	RECORD COMPLETE DATES (month, day, year) OF VACCINE DOSES GIVEN						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTP, DTaP)							
DT (<7 yrs.) / Td (>7 yrs.)							
Tdap Booster							
Haemophilus influenza Type b (Hib)							
Hepatitis B (HepB)							
Polio (IPV, OPV)							
Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)							
Measles							
Mumps							
Rubella							
Varicella							
Chicken Pox Disease History: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> When: Month _____ Year _____ Verified by: _____ (Health Care Provider) Name & Title							
Pneumococcal Conjugate							
Hepatitis A (HepA) (Born on or after 01/01/2005)							
Meningococcal Vaccine							
Human Papillomavirus (HPV)							
Influenza (Recommended)							
Rotavirus (Recommended)							
Other							

Signature of Medical Provider _____ Print Name or Stamp _____ Date _____

Section 2: MEDICAL EXEMPTION. For Health Care Provider Use Only.

I certify that the above student has a valid medical contraindication to being immunized at the time against: (check all that apply)

Diphtheria: () Tetanus: () Pertussis: () Hib: () HepB: () Polio: () Measles: () Mumps: () Rubella: () Varicella: () Pneumococcal: ()
 HepA: () Meningococcal: () HPV: ()

Reason: _____

This is a permanent condition () or temporary condition () until ____/____/____.

Signature of Medical Provider _____ Print Name or Stamp _____ Date _____

Section 3: Alternative Proof of Immunity. To be completed by Health Care Provider or Health Official.

I certify that the student named above has laboratory evidence of immunity: (Check all that apply & attach a copy of titer results)

Diphtheria: () Tetanus: () Pertussis: () Hib: () HepB: () Polio: () Measles: () Mumps: () Rubella: () Varicella: () Pneumococcal: ()
 HepA: () Meningococcal: () HPV: ()

Signature of Medical Provider _____ Print Name or Stamp _____ Date _____



ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

Archdiocesan Pastoral Center: 5001 Eastern Avenue, Hyattsville, MD 20782-3447
Mailing Address: Post Office Box 29260, Washington, DC 20017-0260
301-853-4500 TDD 301-853-5300

August 2, 2010

Vicar General
and Moderator of the Curia
Phone: 301-853-4520
Fax: 301-853-5346

Re: Immunization information for parents of girls entering sixth grade
in archdiocesan schools in the District of Columbia

Dear Parents,

As you may be aware, the District of Columbia government issued new immunization requirements for students, which took effect in School Year 2009-2010. To implement the new requirements, the District issued a standard immunization form, which is part of the "District of Columbia Universal Health Certificate."

As parents of a rising sixth-grade female student in our Catholic schools, you should know that the District of Columbia Universal Health Certificate allows space for documentation of the Human Papillomavirus ("HPV") Vaccine, which may be administered by your daughter's physician.¹ While the language of the law describes the change as the "HPV vaccination requirement" you should also know that parents are entitled to "opt out" of the HPV Vaccination for any reason.

The Archdiocese of Washington believes that the primary responsibility for the medical decision of whether or not to vaccinate a young woman against HPV rests with her parents. Your discretion in making this decision with your daughter is critical and should be based on your own well-informed judgment.

In addition to the information provided by the District of Columbia regarding HPV, the Archdiocese would like the parents in its Catholic schools to have access to some consideration of the vaccine against HPV in light of Catholic teaching. As you know from our previous communications regarding the Archdiocesan Immunization Policy, the Church teaches that generally immunizing against disease is a morally responsible action that is important to sustaining the health of our communities. Likewise, there is nothing intrinsically immoral associated with providing or receiving the HPV vaccine. In fact, the National Catholic Bioethics Center issued a statement on vaccination against HPV on July 11, 2006.

¹ The law in the District of Columbia found at DCMR 22-146 states:

146.1 Beginning with the 2009/2010 school year, a female student enrolling in grade six (6) for the first time shall receive the first dose of HPV vaccine at age eleven (11) and by age twelve (12).

146.2 The second dose of HPV vaccine shall be administered not less than four (4) weeks after the first two (2) months after the first dose.

.3 A third dose of HPV vaccine shall be administered not less than twelve (12) weeks after the second dose and by six (6) months after the first dose.

146.4 The parent or legal guardian of a student required to receive a vaccine under this section may opt out of the vaccination for any reason by signing a form provided by the Department that states that the parent or legal guardian has been informed of the HPV vaccination requirement and has elected not to participate.

It stated the following, which is available at <http://www.ncbcenter.org>:

The National Catholic Bioethics Center notes that the Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices has recommended that young women be vaccinated against the human papilloma virus (HPV) as a protection against cervical cancer, which is caused by certain strains of this virus. HPV is spread through sexual contact which includes, but is not limited to, sexual intercourse. Consequently, the most effective way to avoid contracting it is to abstain from sexual relations before marriage and to remain faithful within marriage.

The NCBC considers HPV vaccination to be a morally acceptable method of protecting against this disease, but asks that civil authorities leave this decision to parents and not make such immunization mandatory.

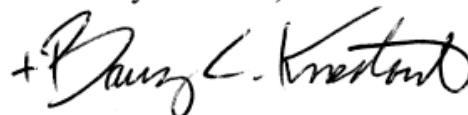
The prevalence of HPV in the reproductive age population makes exposure to the virus possible, even in a monogamous marriage, due to the possibility of a spouse's exposure prior to marriage. Furthermore, we live in a society where non-consensual sex remains a threat to young women who deserve to be protected from the effects of exposure to HPV.

However, as the *Catholic Medical Association Position Paper on HPV Immunization* provides, the HPV vaccine "can help to address one consequence of the spread of HPV, i.e., cervical cancer. At the same time, to best promote the health and happiness of adolescents, physicians, parents and social institutions should redouble their efforts to promote chastity. Consistent messages about and support for this virtue will not only help to reduce disease, but will help individuals, couples, and marriages to flourish."

The Church teaches that parents are the primary caregivers of their children. Because each child is unique, the medical decision regarding the HPV vaccination for your daughter should be made through careful consideration of the medical, ethical and practical information available to your family.

This information is provided in the hope that it might be helpful as you and your daughters make this medical decision.

Faithfully in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Barry C. Knestout". The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning.

Most Reverend Barry C. Knestout
Moderator of the Curia

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Department of Health



Information about Human Papillomavirus and Vaccination and Vaccine Refusal Form for Students at District of Columbia Public, Charter, Private and Parochial Schools

Instructions for completing HPV Vaccine Refusal Certificate

Section 1: Enter student information

Section 2: Have parent/guardian or student (if ≥ 18 years of age) initial, sign and date after reading Vaccine Information Statement (s)

Name of School

Section 1: Student Information

Student Name:	Date of Birth:	Grade:
Street Address:	City:	Zip Code:
Name and Address of Healthcare Provider:	City:	Zip Code:
		Phone:

Recent legislation passed in 2007 by the District of Columbia City Council (DC Bill 17-30) requires all female students, enrolling in grade 6 for the first time at a school in the District of Columbia, to submit certification the student has:

1. Received the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine; or
2. Not received the HPV vaccine because:
 - a. The parent or guardian has objected in good faith and in writing to the chief official of the school that the vaccination would violate his or her religious beliefs;
 - b. The student's physician, his or her representative or the public health authorities has provided the school written certification that the vaccination is medically inadvisable; or
 - c. The parent or legal guardian, in his or her discretion, has elected to opt out of the HPV vaccination program by signing a declaration that the parent or legal guardian has been informed of the HPV vaccination requirement and has elected not to participate.

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine Refusal

I have received and reviewed the information provided on the human papillomavirus and the benefits of the HPV vaccine in preventing cervical cancer and genital warts if it is given to preteen girls. After being informed of the risk of contracting HPV and the link between HPV and cervical cancer, I have decided to not to receive the HPV vaccine for the above named student. I know that I may re-address this issue at any time and complete the required vaccinations.

Signature of Parent/Guardian or Student if ≥18 years

Date

Print Name of Parent/Guardian or Student if ≥18 years

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Department of Health



HUMAN PAPILOMAVIRUS INFORMATION

Genital human papillomavirus (HPV) is the most common sexually transmitted virus in the United States. There are about 100 types of HPV. Most infections don't cause any symptoms and go away on their own. HPV is important mainly because it can cause cervical cancer in women and several less common types of cancer in both men and women. It can also cause genital warts and warts of the upper respiratory tract. There is no treatment for HPV, but the conditions it causes can be treated.

About 20 million people in the U.S. are infected, and about 6.2 million more get infected each year. HPV is spread through sexual contact. More than 50% of sexually active men and women are infected with HPV at some time in their lives. Every year in the U.S., about 10,000 women get cervical cancer and 3,700 die from it with rates of cervical cancer in DC being higher than national averages.

HPV vaccine is an inactivated vaccine (not live) which protects against 4 major types of HPV. These include 2 types that cause about 70% of cervical cancer and 2 types that cause about 90% of genital warts. HPV vaccine can prevent most genital warts and most cases of cervical cancer.

Protection is expected to be long-lasting. But vaccinated women still need cervical cancer screening because the vaccine does not protect against all HPV types that cause cervical cancer.

HPV vaccine is routinely recommended for girls 11-12 years. Doctors may give it to girls as young as 9 years. It is important for girls to get HPV vaccine before their first sexual contact-because they have not been exposed to HPV. For these girls, the vaccine can prevent almost 100% of disease caused by the 4 types of HPV targeted by the vaccine. However, if a girl or woman is already infected with a type of HPV, the vaccine will not prevent disease from that type. It is still recommended that girls or women with HPV get vaccinated.

The vaccine is also recommended for girls and women 13-26 years of age who did not receive it when they were younger. It may be given with any other vaccines needed.

HPV vaccine is given as a 3-dose series:

- **1st Dose: Now**
- **2nd Dose: 2 months after Dose 1**
- **3rd Dose: 6 months after Dose 1**

People who have had a life-threatening allergic reaction to yeast, are pregnant, moderate to severe illness should not receive the vaccine. Side effects are mostly mild, including itching, pain, redness at the injection site and a mild to moderate fever.

If additional information is needed, please contact your healthcare provider, the D.C. Department of Health Immunization Program at (202) 576-9342 or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636).