



Barry-Eaton District Health Department

Be Active • Be Safe • Be Healthy

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It's National Immunization Awareness Month! Is Your Family Up to Date on Vaccines?

You have the power to protect yourself and your family against serious diseases! Vaccines help protect us against diseases like measles, whooping cough, cancers caused by HPV, and pneumonia. To help keep our community safe, The Barry Eaton District Health Department (BEDHD) is proudly participating in National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM). Talk to your doctor, nurse, or other healthcare professional to ensure your family is up-to-date on recommended vaccines

Keeping children and adults up-to-date on their vaccines is important for their protection. Did you know that before children reach two years old, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends vaccines to prevent **14 infectious diseases**? Each recommended vaccine dose is scheduled based on the age the body's immune system will respond the best and the need to protect infants and children at the earliest age possible. On-time vaccination throughout childhood is essential because it helps provide immunity before children are exposed to potentially life-threatening diseases. The vaccines are tested to be sure they are safe and effective for children to receive at the recommended ages.

Are Kids Falling Behind?

According to March 2019 data from the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR), only 59% of Michigan children 19 through 35 months of age were up-to-date with the recommended vaccines. In Eaton County, 76% of children aged 3 months old were up-to-date on vaccines. At 7 months this number dropped to 61%, and at 24 months only 49% were up-to-date on vaccines. In Barry County, 85% of children aged 3 months old were up-to-date on vaccines. At 7 months 56% were up-to-date, and at 24 months this number dropped to 49%. For more information about when your child needs to be vaccinated, talk to your healthcare provider, contact the health department, or visit <https://bit.ly/2O2SHtG>.

We All Need Vaccines

Immunizations are also important to the health of adults, especially pregnant women and older adults. The vaccines you need as an adult are determined by many factors including your age, lifestyle, health condition, and which vaccines you've received during your life. Use the Adult Vaccine Assessment Tool, located at <https://bit.ly/2jZznvh>, to determine what vaccines are recommended for you.

The Barry-Eaton District Health Department offers weekly vaccination clinics for residents. Clinics are held Tuesdays in Barry County and Wednesdays in Eaton County. All recommended child and adult vaccines are available at the health department. To make an appointment for you or your child to be vaccinated, call (269) 798-9516 in Barry County or (517) 543-2630 in Eaton County.

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