



Oneida County Health Department



To protect, nurture and advance
the health of our community

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Catching Up on Overdue Vaccinations

If your child missed any well-care visits over the last few months, they may also be behind on routine vaccinations. Because more children are now behind on vaccines, it is possible that as communities reopens, we will witness an increase in vaccine-preventable diseases. It is a good idea to get your child caught up on their vaccines soon, particularly those younger than 2 years of age who may have missed more than one visit.

Tips for scheduling your child's vaccinations now:

- First, call your child's doctor to schedule an appointment. Remember, doctors' offices may have fewer appointments available as they work to keep everyone safe.
- Second, if you know your child missed vaccine visits, ask the person on the phone if your child will be able to get all vaccines that they need or if they will require a few visits to catch up. If they need a few visits to catch up, you may be able to schedule more than one appointment right away.
- If you are not sure whether your child is behind on vaccinations — or if you are not sure how many vaccines they need —ask. This way you will know what to expect and can prepare yourself and your child.
- Because some of the symptoms of COVID-19 and the flu are similar, this year, it will be more important than ever to make sure everyone in the family gets a flu shot. This will help in a few ways. First, if you or your child develops respiratory symptoms, doctors will be able to figure out what you are sick with if you've had the flu shot. Second, if

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Monday– Friday 8:00AM-4:30PM

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more people are vaccinated against the flu, there will be less spread, which will help hospitals manage important medical resources in the fall and winter. This will be particularly important if COVID-19 cases spike during the same period.

If you are unsure on what vaccines your child needs, call your child's doctor.

For more information on catching up on recommended vaccines during COVID-19, see Children's Hospital of Philadelphia <https://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center/considerations-during-covid-19>

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