



School medical service School vaccination 8th school year

Dear students

Dear parents and legal guardians

The canton of Nidwalden offers you the opportunity to have the basic vaccinations recommended by the Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH) carried out free of charge by the school doctor in your municipality and on site at the school.

The following vaccinations are recommended as boosters: *Diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio, measles, mumps, rubella* and *hepatitis B*. The FOPH recommends that all adolescents be vaccinated against *hepatitis B*. A complete vaccination against *hepatitis B* comprises two injections. We recommend that you have the first injection with the above-mentioned booster vaccinations. The second vaccination is given six months later.

These vaccinations are *voluntary*. Serial vaccinations require a much smaller workload and the vaccines can be purchased in larger quantities directly from the manufacturer. This halves the costs incurred by the healthcare system compared to individual vaccinations at the doctor's office. If you would like to make use of the offer of the school medical service, we ask you for your written consent below. Please tick the vaccinations you wish to be carried out. You are also free to have them carried out at your family doctor's office at your own expense.



Registration for school vaccination

Please bring your child's vaccination card!

- ☐ I wish for **all** recommended and necessary vaccinations (diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B)
- ☐ I only want **some** of the suggested combined vaccinations:
 - ☐ diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough (polio if necessary)
 - ☐ measles, mumps, rubella
 - ☐ hepatitis B
- ☐ Already vaccinated
- ☐ I do not wish for vaccinations

Name and surname: _____

Date of birth: _____

School / Place: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

Signature from legal
guardian: _____

Signature from
student: _____

Please turn page

Basic information on vaccinations

Vaccination is the simplest and best form of protection against certain infectious diseases. Vaccination is particularly essential for diseases for which there is no effective cure for or which can cause serious and permanent damage.

- **Diphtheria** (Di): Severe infection of the nose, throat and larynx caused by bacteria, which can be fatal if left untreated.
- **Tetanus** (Te): Life-threatening poisoning caused by bacteria after contaminated injuries, which is difficult to treat even with the most modern medical measures.
- **Pertussis, whooping cough** (Pa): Highly contagious bacterial infection of the respiratory tract, which leads to a cough that is difficult to control and often lasts for weeks. Life-threatening in infants.
- **Polio** (IPV): Viral disease of the central nervous system that leads to permanent paralysis and often death.

The combined vaccination **diphtheria / tetanus / whooping cough** (if necessary polio) often leads to slight swelling at the injection site and occasionally a slight fever may also occur.

- **Measles**: Viral disease mainly affecting the respiratory organs with intense rash. Middle ear and lung inflammation as a complication. In one in a thousand cases, brain inflammation with permanent, occasionally fatal consequences.
- **Mumps**: Viral disease of the parotid glands. Causes meningitis and very rarely also dangerous brain inflammation (encephalitis). Can lead to the dreaded testicular inflammation with permanent infertility in men.
- **Rubella**: Harmless viral infection with rash, but causes malformations of the unborn child if contracted during pregnancy. Vaccination in childhood is recommended to prevent transmission to pregnant women.

The combined vaccine **MMR** (measles, mumps, rubella) very rarely leads to side effects. A rash accompanied by a slight temperature may occur after 8-10 days. In recent years, it has unfortunately been shown that a single MMR vaccination does not provide lifelong immunity, so a second vaccination is recommended.

- **Hepatitis B**: Hepatitis B is a viral infection and leads to severe jaundice (inflammation of the liver). It is mainly transmitted with infected blood or during sexual intercourse. Most of these diseases heal without consequences. Unfortunately, however, individual cases are acutely fatal and approx. 10-15% become chronic, i.e. the gradual, chronic inflammation of the liver can lead to the slow destruction of the liver and premature death. The vaccination has no significant side effects. It should be administered to adolescents before they become sexually active.

As a general rule, vaccinations should not be carried out in the case of acute, febrile illnesses. For further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards

Dr. med. Peter Gürber, MPH, cantonal doctor