



IDPH News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

7/6/11

Contact: Jane Ernst
117 N.W Hayes, Greenfield
641-743-6173

Summer Plans Should Include Immunization Checks

Be school-ready by ensuring your child's vaccinations are up-to-date

In the midst of summer camps, vacations and sports, the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) and Adair County Health System urge parents to ensure their child's immunizations are up-to-date in preparation for going back to school. Iowa Law requires children to receive immunizations prior to attending a licensed child care center or school. These requirements are based upon the recommendations from the national Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and are minimum recommendations to keep your child healthy. Contact your health care provider to make sure your child's immunizations meet current recommendations.

Because of the global nature of our society, vaccinations are more important than ever. "Most cases of measles in the U.S., for example, have been 'imported' by a visitor from another country," said Adair County Community Health Coordinator Stephanie Claussen. "Without high vaccination rates in the U.S., a single case of a vaccine-preventable disease brought from another country could balloon into an epidemic." The best way to protect you and your family against vaccine preventable diseases is to make sure your immunizations are up to date. The Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program offers vaccines at no cost for eligible children through VFC-enrolled providers. To find out if your child qualifies contact Adair County Home Care at 641-743-6173. Vaccinating on schedule means healthier children, families and communities.

For more information about vaccinations, including required child care and school vaccinations, recommended adult vaccinations, and more, visit

www.idph.state.ia.us/ImmTB/Immunization.aspx?prog=Imm&pg=ImmHome.

###