

INFORMATION REPORT

TO: Mayor and Members Board of Health	WARD(S) AFFECTED: CITY WIDE
COMMITTEE DATE: June 18, 2012	
SUBJECT/REPORT NO: Accountability Agreement - HPV Vaccine Wastage (BOH12013) (City Wide)	
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Council Direction:

This report provides an update on the accountability indicator for human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine wastage. Earlier this year, the Board of Health approved an Accountability Agreement with the Ministry of Health and Long-term Care BOH11038(a) which included a commitment to maintain or improve the 2011 baseline rate of HPV vaccine wastage in 2012. This rate was set at $\leq 0.5\%$ wastage for HPV vaccine administered by the health unit.

Information:

In February, Public Health Services (PHS) experienced a refrigerator failure at an immunization clinic site that resulted in the loss of 241 doses of HPV vaccine. This failure occurred because the back-up battery was not replaced during annual inspection by the fridge maintenance company. As a result of the failure, PHS will be unable to meet its target for 2012 due to an expected wastage rate of 4.3% for this year. This rate is based on the average number of doses wasted annually, plus those doses wasted as a result of the failure, divided by the number of doses of HPV vaccine administered each year.

Several processes have been implemented to ensure that further vaccine wastage is minimized. These include:

- A vendor incident report was filed with the Purchasing Department to report that the services provided did not meet the specifications for annual refrigerator inspections as outlined by staff (i.e. battery not replaced as required).
- Investigation into how the back-up battery may be alarmed.
- The issuing of a Request For Quote (RFQ) to have one alarm monitoring company for all vaccine refrigerators to ensure a consistent response to alarms (currently there are 4 different companies providing this service).
- Review of current program policies for the storage and handling of vaccines and review of staff training.
- Vaccine inventory at immunization clinic sites is to be kept at a minimum. No HPV vaccine is to be stored at immunization clinic locations.
- Staff will initiate reminder recalls in the summer to the parents of all eligible Grade 8 girls who either did not start or finish their HPV vaccine series. This will improve coverage rates and have the additional benefits of decreasing overall vaccine wastage.