

PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTION



Getting Kids Caught Up with Vaccines

Falling Immunization Rates

COVID-19 disrupted so many things in the past year and a half, childhood immunizations included. As a result, many children have missed well visits and fallen behind on recommended vaccines. A [national study](#) showed that many clinics had to cease operations for a time, or needed to limit capacity out of concern for COVID-19 infection risks. Some families may have experienced changes to their households that may have influenced their abilities to get children vaccinated. These include job loss/lay-offs and financial hardships that go with those related to transportation or health insurance. The [CDC reports](#) that vaccine ordering is down in 2020-2021 as compared to 2019. Scott County immunization data shows a similar trend. While immunization rates for school aged children and those attending child care centers have remained more stable, those for children aged two years and younger have seen a drastic drop.

Getting Back on Track

It is not too late. Children can catch up with immunizations now so that they are protected. The best way to do this is to contact the child's health care provider and make a plan to schedule those missed immunizations yet this summer. Sooner is better!

Families that are in need of insurance coverage can apply for same day Iowa Medicaid or Hawki coverage through Scott County Health Department's Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health program. The Scott County Health Department Immunization Clinic is here to assist families as well.

Give us a call at 563-326-8618 or visit scottcountyiowa.gov/health/.



OUR MISSION:

The Scott County Health Department promotes, protects, and preserves health through leadership, services, education, and partnerships.

OUR VISION:

Scott County —
A safe and healthy
community.

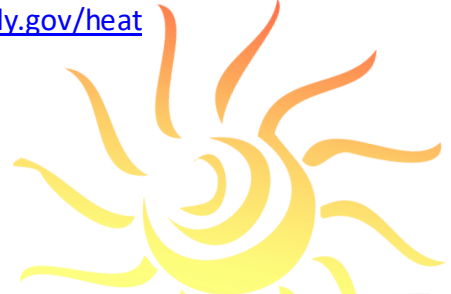


SPECIAL EVENTS

- *The SCHD will be closed on Monday, July 5, 2021 in observation of Independence Day.*
- *Scott County Board of Health Meeting, Scott County Administrative Center, 1st Floor Boardroom, 12:00 PM, Thursday, July 22, 2021.*

Links

- CDC Immunization Catchup Schedules: cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/imz/catchup.html
- Study: Pediatric Vaccination during the COVID-19 Pandemic cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/pediatric-practices-during-COVID-19.html
- SCHD Immunization Clinic: scottcountyiowa.gov/health/immunization
- Ready.gov Extreme Heat <https://www.ready.gov/heat>



How to Deal With Extreme Heat

Summer 2021 is expected to be another hot one. According to FEMA, extreme heat often results in a higher number of annual deaths than other natural disasters. It is worth taking a moment to make sure you are prepared. When there is an extreme heat warning, take action! Find air conditioning if possible. Check on family members and neighbors. Avoid strenuous activity. Drink plenty of fluids. Wear light clothing. Never leave people or pets in a closed car. Watch for signs of heat illness.

Heat cramps can feel like muscle pains/spasms in the stomach, arms or legs. This can lead to heat exhaustion which presents as heavy sweating, paleness, cramps, weakness, dizziness, and nausea or vomiting. If you have either heat cramps or exhaustion, go to a cooler location, remove excess clothing, sip a cold sports drink with salt and sugar, and seek medical attention if symptoms last more than an hour. Heat stroke is a true medical emergency with high body temperature over 103 degrees; skin becomes red, hot and dry (no sweat); a rapid strong pulse; and dizziness, confusion, or unconsciousness. If this happens, call 911 and cool down however you can until help arrives.



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