



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Send Your Children Back to School Protected from Serious Illness**

*August is National Immunization Awareness Month*

**Eau Claire, WI, August 25, 2022** – With the start of school right around the corner, the Chippewa Valley Immunization Coalition encourages parents and guardians to make sure that your children are up to date on their vaccinations. Vaccines are important in protecting your child against serious diseases like measles, cancers caused by HPV, and whooping cough.

It also is important to consider getting your child a COVID-19 vaccine or a booster dose if not up to date. The CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommend the Moderna and Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines for children 6 months and older. These vaccines lower the risk of your child getting seriously sick or hospitalized if they get COVID-19.

“Making sure your children are caught up on their vaccines will protect them, their classmates, and others around them from serious illness,” says Allison Gosbin, Public Health Nurse at the Eau Claire City-County Health Department.



**Talk to your child’s doctor to be sure they are up to date with their vaccinations.** To learn more about recommended vaccines, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/index.html>.

*The Chippewa Valley Immunization Coalition comprises healthcare, education, and public health partners who are working together to increase immunizations and protect children and adults from severe disease.*

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