



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR CTC/ETS PARTICIPANTS

To: All persons attending Cadet Training Centers or Junior Canadian Rangers Enhanced Training Sessions

Subject: Increasing Measles Cases and Importance of Bringing Vaccination Records

In response to the recent rise in confirmed measles outbreaks across various regions of Canada, and in preparation for the upcoming summer training season, the Cadets and Junior Canadian Rangers Group (CJCR Gp) requests that all military and civilian staff, cadets, JCRs and/or their parents/legal guardians review this message and plan accordingly.

The CJCR Gp takes seriously the health and welfare of all those who participate in its programs. Thus, in consultation with the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) Directorate Force Health Protection (DFHP) Communicable Disease Control Programme, the CJCR Gp **highly recommends that all participants in summer training activities bring a copy of their immunization (vaccine) records, or a digital copy on their personal electronic device, to their Cadet Training Centre (CTC) or JCR Enhanced Training Session (ETS) activity.**

Participants who have not received the recommended measles immunizations, or who do not wish to disclose their immunization record, are asked to at least be self-aware of their vaccine status and are encouraged to discuss their personal situation with medical staff upon arrival to their activity. However, such disclosure is not mandatory to participate in cadets or JCR activities this summer.

What is Measles?

Measles is a highly contagious viral disease that can cause serious health complications in susceptible individuals, particularly those who are not immunized and/or have a weakened immune system. Symptoms include fever, cough, rash, and red eyes. In some individuals it may cause serious health complications such as pneumonia, brain infection and swelling, and death.

Protection against Measles

Evidence shows that the measles vaccine is safe and highly effective against measles. The measles immunization is normally given in early childhood in every province and territory in Canada as part of routine immunization schedules. It is strongly recommended that all persons without medical contraindications attending CTC or JCR ETS be up to date with the complete measles-containing vaccine or series in accordance with the criteria in Table 1 of [Measles vaccines: Canadian immunization guide](#).

An individual shall be considered protected against measles if any one of the following criteria is met:

1. Proof of a completed measles vaccine series:
 - a. two doses a minimum of 28 days apart, for children and adolescents under 18 years of age, or
 - b. one or two doses for adults 18 years of age and older born in or after 1970; or
2. Proof of prior measles infection (may provide a copy of lab testing/ medical documentation).

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Why Vaccine Records Matter for CTC and JCR ETS

All persons attending CTCs and JCR ETSs are strongly recommended to have proof of vaccination readily available, either as a physical copy, or on their personal electronic device. This information will be collected through an intake form upon arrival by CTC/ETS medical staff. The intake form will collect basic information on the participant's vaccination status, including the number of vaccine doses, the source of the vaccine record (i.e. a physical or digital copy of vaccine records), and whether the participant is exempt from the measles vaccine due to a medical condition. The intake form will not collect information on any other exemption that is not medically related.

In the event of a measles outbreak, public health authorities may recommend that persons who are not vaccinated, *or are unable to provide vaccination records*, be required to isolate for longer periods of time – up to 21 days after exposure in some cases. **Having records will enable Public Health to plan and manage proper isolation periods in accordance with vaccination status, and will help enable persons to continue their participation at CTC or JCR ETS if there is a measles outbreak.** Please see the following link for more information about measles management. [Guidance for the public health management of measles cases, contacts and outbreaks in Canada.](#)

Vaccine records can be obtained by contacting your health care provider or through the public health office in your jurisdiction. Military personnel can approach medical records or the immunizations clerk at their supporting clinic to obtain this information.

For more information about measles in Canada, please visit the following website.
<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/measles.html>

PRIVACY NOTICE: *Personal information provided to DND/CAF is governed in accordance with the Privacy Act. DND/CAF will only collect the personal information needed to administer the Cadet and Junior Canadian Rangers program, which is authorized in accordance with the National Defence Act and reports to the VCDS. The purpose of this information collection is stated in this letter. If applicable, your personal information may be disclosed to Public Health for the reasons stated in this letter. In limited and specific situations, your personal information may be disclosed without your consent in accordance with subsection 8(2) of the Privacy Act. Vaccine information received during medical intakes will be stored for the duration of the activity and destroyed at the end of the activity or by age 25 of the Cadet/JCR as per [PIB DND PPU 839](#). In addition to protecting your personal information, the Privacy Act gives you the right to request access to and correct your personal information. For more information about these rights, or about our privacy practices, please contact the DND/CAF Access to Information and Privacy Coordinator. You also have the right to file a complaint with the Privacy Commissioner of Canada regarding our handling of your personal information. [File a complaint about a federal institution - Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada.](#)*