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Now is a great time to get caught up on missed immunizations

Ithaca, Stanton, St. Johns- Vaccines are proven to protect people from serious diseases but delayed routine healthcare during the pandemic has led to a significant decline in routine vaccination for all ages.

Like many other states nationwide, Michigan saw a decline in vaccination coverage due to the COVID-19 pandemic. What is most alarming is how the pandemic affected the vaccination rate in children. According to data from the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR), as of June 2021 only 54.7 percent of Michigan children 19 through 35 months of age were fully immunized with recommended vaccines.

Now that children are back in school, and adults who may have been working from home during the pandemic are back in the workplace, it is more important than ever to get caught up with routine vaccinations.

If you are unsure what vaccinations you or your family need, you can visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) <u>Interactive Vaccine Guide</u>, which provides information on the vaccines recommended during pregnancy and throughout a child's life. Adults 19 and older can take the CDC's <u>Adult Vaccine Assessment Tool</u> to find out which vaccines they may need.

Vaccination appointments can be made by calling your doctor's office or the Mid-Michigan District Health Department. In Clinton County, call 989-224-2195. In Gratiot County call 989-875-381. In Montcalm County call 989-831-5237.

In addition to getting caught up on any missed vaccinations, be sure to schedule any other healthcare appointments that may be overdue, including dental care, eye care, and mental health visits.

Mid-Michigan District Health Department serves the residents of Clinton, Gratiot, and Montcalm Counties. We take action to protect, maintain and improve the health of our community.

Advancing innovative solutions to achieve healthier outcomes