

Tips for Finding Immunization Records

Immunization records are important for you and your family. Shot records are needed for doctor's visits and to meet child care and school immunization requirements and may be needed for a job or for international travel. Here are some tips on locating immunization records.

Where can I look for old records?

- **Family records.** Family records such as baby books may contain immunization records.
- **Doctor's offices or clinics.** Check with all health care providers where shots may have been given, including neighborhood clinics and local public health departments.
- **Schools or child care providers.** Child care providers and schools must verify immunizations for attendees and may be able to look up records.
- **Military records** may be a source of immunization information for those who have served in the military.
- **An immunization registry.** Registries are confidential, computerized systems for tracking immunization records. They are managed by state or local health departments and are accessible only by health professionals who give immunizations or those required by law to record immunizations for enrollment.

Locating the vaccination history of an adult is oftentimes difficult. Clinics, schools, and child care providers maintain records for a limited period of time and very few immunization registries existed prior to the mid-1990's. In the future, immunization registries will provide complete records of shots received, regardless of where or at what age they were given.

What immunization records are in the Minnesota immunization registry, MIIC?

The Minnesota Immunization Information Connection, or MIIC, includes a record of shots given at numerous public and private health care clinics and hospitals in Minnesota. The registry covers all ages but is more likely to contain immunization records of children than adults. Also, although MIIC participation by clinics and

hospitals continues to expand, not all health care providers participate. Check to see if your clinic participates in MIIC at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/immunize/registry/counties.html.

How can I check MIIC for immunization records?

To find out if immunization records for you or your family are in MIIC, contact the Minnesota Department of Health MIIC Help Desk at 651-201-5503 or 800-657-3970. You will be asked to verify your identification and if your records are in the registry, they can be sent to you via fax or mail. Due to confidentiality concerns, immunization records cannot be sent via email.

Note: if you are a health care provider please contact your MIIC regional coordinator for assistance with immunization records in MIIC. Their contact information is available at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/immunize/registry/map.html.

What about shots received in other states?

Most states and some local areas have immunization registries. Try contacting the registry in the location where you or your child received their last shots. See a list of state and local registries at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/iis/contacts-state-iis.htm.

What if I can't find my records?

If immunization records can't be found, it may be necessary to repeat some of the shots or arrange for blood tests to determine immunity. Talk with your doctor to determine the appropriate course of action. Keep track of immunizations received by using the forms at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/immunize/tracking.html.



Immunization Program
P.O. Box 64975
St. Paul, MN 55164-0975
651-201-5503, 800-657-3970
www.health.state.mn.us/immunize