

February 10, 2020

The Village of Saltaire Board of Trustees issued a charge to the Medical Advisory Committee (MAC) and Vaccine Subcommittee (hereafter referred to as the Committee) on September 6, 2019 (the "Charge"), charging the Committee with reviewing and updating the Village of Saltaire policies regarding the Saltaire Day Camp ("Camp") Immunization Requirements. The Committee has completed its review and the relevant topics have been addressed and recommendations follow.

The Charge contained five topics including:

- (1) Review the current Camp health forms used by the Village for participation in the Saltaire Recreation Program's Camp;
- (2) Review and make recommendations as to whether the Board of Trustees should adopt a local policy requiring full immunization for all Campers and that in effect disallows either or both immunization exemptions (religious and/or medical) for attendance at the Camp;
- (3) Review and make recommendations as to whether the Board of Trustees should adopt a local policy requiring a full immunization for all counselors who work at the Camp;
- (4) Make recommendations regarding the advisability of permitting exemptions to a policy requiring full immunization and to assess the impact of such a policy and any exemptions may have on the Village's insurance, legal liability or effective ability to operate the Camp in a safe manner; and
- (5) Make any other recommendations that the Committee feels would enhance and protect the public health and safety of Saltaire residents against communicable diseases.

Topic 1. Recommendations as to Current Forms

The Committee reviewed the new 2020 Saltaire Day Camp Medical Form and Immunization Certification. We are in agreement with having a standard form for all campers and counselors 18 years of age and under requiring them to be fully immunized against all communicable diseases in accordance with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) requirements for attendance in NYS schools. The only permitted exemption would be a medical exemption that meets the criteria set forth by the NYSDOH. Our suggestion is to allow any licensed healthcare provider (ie Nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, M.D.) to complete the Camper Health History and immunization records. However, if a medical waiver is needed that must be completed and signed by a licensed physician. Since there are campers who do not live in New York State we would amend the medical exemption form to be signed by any licensed physician in the United States.

Topics 2. and 3. Full Immunization for Campers and Staff

The Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees adopts a policy requiring every camper, counselor, and staff 18 years of age and under to be fully immunized under the same schedule as required by NYS Public Health Law Section 2164, which contains the vaccination requirements for public schools, under the CDC schedule of guidelines, in order to be eligible to attend or work at Saltaire Day Camp. The only exemption would be a medical exemption that is certified by a United States licensed physician and approved by the Camp Health Director in accordance with New York State Public Health Law Section 2164(8).

This recommendation conforms with the policy guidelines put forth by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the strong recommendation of the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). These updated recommendations are intended to prevent or control an outbreak of any other vaccine preventable disease.

The most effective prevention policy against communicable diseases is broad vaccine coverage. The Committee recommends following the vaccine requirements and schedules set forth annually by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (CDC), The ACIP/CDC guidelines are updated annually and need to be reviewed by the Camp Health Director before each summer to make sure our forms and policies stay current. A link to the guidelines is included at the end of this report.

The Committee suggests that the Village Board continue to investigate the option of requiring that all camp staff 19 years and over have at a minimum 2 doses of the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine (MMR) unless born prior to 1957 or have serology proving immunity, 1 tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis vaccine booster (DTaP) within the past ten years, and two varicella vaccine doses or history of disease. We support the immunization requirements for lifeguards to be vaccinated for hepatitis B. Ideally we recommend that all staff should be fully vaccinated according to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

Topic 4.: Impact of Granting Exemptions

The Committee is more concerned that the Village may face potential liability in not following the recommendations of the various state and federal agencies, including the elimination of the religious exemption and the allowance of medical exemptions.

The Committee recommends that the Village review the new camp immunization policy, when it is approved by the Board of Trustees, with Village's insurance carrier regarding any concerns with insurance or liability.

Topic 5. Recommendations to Enhance Public Safety

Immunization records and Medical Forms for all camper and staff eighteen years and under should be kept on file with the Camp Health Director and updated annually. These records should include the date of Diphtheria, Haemophilus, Influenzae type B, hepatitis B, measles, mumps, rubella, poliomyelitis, tetanus, and varicella immunizations. This will facilitate a rapid response to any communicable disease outbreak. The Medical Health Director should keep a list of all staff and campers who are not fully immunized including the specific communicable diseases that person is at risk of contracting and or transmitting.

Preventing Measles: To prevent measles from entering the camp the NYSDOH is recommending screening campers for any signs of illness and any/or recent measles exposure. This can be done through an email to the parents. Any camper who has had an illness that includes fever, cough, or rash within 4 days prior to the start of camp should be cleared by a healthcare provider before starting camp. Any camper exposed to measles or anyone with symptoms of measles would be monitored if they are fully vaccinated, or if not fully vaccinated would not be permitted to attend camp at that time and the local health department notified.

The camp staff should be provided basic training so as to be familiar with signs and symptoms of measles. Measles is spread via an airborne route and therefore is highly

contagious. Any camper or staff member exhibiting signs of possible measles should be immediately reported to the Camp Health Director. The NYSDOH flyer is included in the attachment at the end of this report. Anyone with symptoms should be immediately isolated and the local health department must be contacted. Anyone born before 1957 is considered immune to measles and for anyone born after 1957 either one or two doses of the MMR vaccine is required depending on age and blood work documenting immune titers.

Public Safety and health of all Saltaire residents against communicable Diseases: The best prevention against a communicable disease outbreak is vaccination for all residents except for those with a valid medical exemption. All members of the community should be educated and familiar with the signs and symptoms of communicable diseases and should seek timely medical attention when appropriate.

Suggested Links Referred to in MAC Report:

<https://www.aap.org/en-us/advocacy-and-policy/aap-health-initiatives/immunizations/>

[Pages/Immunization-Schedule.aspx](https://www.aap.org/en-us/advocacy-and-policy/aap-health-initiatives/immunizations/Pages/Immunization-Schedule.aspx)

<https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/outdoors/camps/>

<https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/>

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/index.html>

Medical Committee: Susan Lipsitz, MD Lela Mayers, MD, Christine Schiff, NYS EMT, Saltaire Volunteer Fire Company EMS continuing education coordinator Vaccine Subcommittee

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