

# REPORT ADVERSE EVENTS FOLLOWING IMMUNIZATION (AEFI)



Health care providers in New Brunswick who administer vaccines and/or provide clinical care for clients are required to report any AEFI to the Regional Medical Officer of Health in writing within **1 working day** for serious events and **within 5 working days** for other events (NBIPG - Standards and Policy on Adverse Events Following Immunization)

## WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO REPORT?

When you report an AEFI, you provide vital information that is needed to monitor vaccine safety. This information is also used to report on vaccine safety to New Brunswickers, which contributes to the success of immunization programs.

### WHAT NEEDS TO BE REPORTED?

#### Serious Adverse Events:

**Report within 1 working day**

Any serious reaction that:

- Is life-threatening – e.g., anaphylaxis, Guillain-Barré Syndrome
- Causes or prolongs hospitalization  $\geq 24$  hours
- Results in permanent disability or congenital malformation
- Is fatal

#### Other Adverse Events:

**Report within 5 working days**

- Neurological events including febrile and afebrile convulsions
- Associated events where medical attention is required
- Events where consideration must be given to postpone or contraindicate future immunizations
- Unexpected events with no alternative explanation

### WHAT DOESN'T NEED TO BE REPORTED?

Do not report minor or expected reactions as outlined in the product monograph, unless they are more severe or more frequent than expected.

Some of these reactions include:

- Fever that is not accompanied by any other symptoms
- Injection site reactions that last less than 4 days
- Vasovagal syncope (without injury)

Do not report events that are clearly attributed to other causes

Do not report if there is no temporal association ([NBIPG - Summary of Reporting Criteria](#)).

## HOW TO REPORT

1. Consult your local Public Health office for guidance to determine if an AEFI should be reported when needed.
2. Download and complete the NB [AEFI Reporting form](#)
3. Fax the form to your local Public Health office.

## LISTING OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES

Zone	Telephone	Fax
Zone 1 – Moncton	506-856-2401	506-856-3101
Zone 2 - Saint John	506-658-2454	506-658-3067
Zone 3 – Fredericton	506-453-5200	506-444-5108
Zone 4 – Edmundston	506-735-2065	506-735-2340
Zone 5 – Campbellton	506-789-2266	506-789-2349
Zone 6 – Bathurst	506-547-2062	506-547-7459
Zone 7 – Miramichi	506-778-6102	506-773-6611

### RESOURCES

[New Brunswick Immunization Program Guide](#) (NBIPG)