

# MEMORANDUM

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

TO : Seymour Kurland, City Solicitor

DATE 7/28/89

FROM : Joseph Paglia, Deputy Records Commissioner *Joseph Paglia*

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REVISIONS TO HEALTH CODE VIOLATIONS

The above proposed revisions, promulgated by the Department of Health, were received in the Department of Records on June 23, 1989, for filing and advertising.

Inasmuch as there were no requests for hearings, these proposed revisions became effective midnight, July 24, 1989.

/ml

cc: Maurice C. Clifford, M.D., Health Commissioner

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
REGULATIONS FOR MEASLES IMMUNIZATION  
REQUIRED FOR SCHOOL ENTRY

WHEREAS, based upon the Immunization Practices Advisory Committee (ACIP) recommendations, the Philadelphia Department of Public Health concludes that when the measles virus exists in a community, those children who have been vaccinated for measles while under 15 months of age have a much greater risk of contracting measles than children who have been vaccinated while 15 months of age or older.

WHEREAS, susceptible children are subject not only to the effects of the disease and its complications, but may be responsible for the transmission of the disease to other susceptible persons in the community, including unvaccinated children who have not yet reached the prescribed age for vaccination.

WHEREAS, there have been confirmed measles cases in Philadelphia and documented measles transmission within the city.

Pursuant to Section 6-210 of the Health Code of Philadelphia providing that the following regulation is promulgated by the Board of Health:

(1) Immunization Requirement for School Entry

All pupils entering any public, parochial or private school for the first time in Philadelphia must be appropriately immunized against measles. A child is considered appropriately immunized against measles for school entry if he/she received one dose of live attenuated measles vaccine at 15 months of age or older or has serological evidence of immunity to measles.

A physician diagnosis of measles shall be accepted in lieu of immunization if supported by standard serological tests.

(2) Exemption from Immunization Requirements

(a) Medical Exemption. Children need not be immunized if a physician or his/her designee provides a written statement that immunization may be detrimental to the health of the child. When the physician determines that immunization is no longer detrimental to the health of the child, the child shall be immunized.

DEPARTMENT OF RECORDS  
69 JUN 23 PM 12 51

(b) Religious Exemption. Children need not be immunized if the parent or guardian objects in writing to the immunization on religious grounds, or on the basis of a strong moral or ethical conviction similar to a religious belief.

DEPARTMENT OF RECORDS  
89 JUN 23 PM 12 51