

September 26, 2017

RE: SHC Policy on MMR and Varicella Immunization Titers & Boosters

In accordance with the current CDC guidelines, the SHC considers the receipt of two documented doses of either the MMR or varicella vaccine as proof of immunity. Vaccination supersedes results of subsequent serologic testing (i.e. titers). Most commercially available tests for MMR or varicella antibodies are not sensitive enough to detect vaccine-induced antibodies, which is why CDC does not recommend post-vaccination testing for MMR or varicella. For more information, see page 24 of ACIP's Immunization of Health-Care Personnel, available at www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr6007.pdf. **Therefore, the SHC does NOT recommend MMR or varicella titers after an individual has received two documented doses of the MMR or varicella vaccine.** For students who request MMR or varicella titers (e.g. to satisfy clinical site requirements), a single vaccination booster will be offered if the titers are negative. No additional serologic testing or vaccination booster for MMR or varicella will be offered to the student after the initial booster. Serologic (titer) testing and vaccination boosters are expensive and should only be performed in accordance with the most recent CDC guidelines.