Medical Exemption

Objectives: At the completion of this section, the learner will know the steps to:

- issue a full medical exemption
- issue a partial medical exemption

Clinic users at a facility with a licensed physician can provide a Certificate of Medical Exemption from school-required immunizations. The Certificate of Medical Exemption will be on forms approved by the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) and will be accepted in lieu of the Certificate of Immunization (COI).

To issue a medical exemption for all vaccines required by school law, a patient must be assigned to your site and have a chart #. A chart # can be added by clicking “View Patient Details”, “Chart #/Follow Up”, entering a chart number, and click Add.

Once the patient has a chart number assigned at your site, select Medical Exemption on the left side of the menu.
In the first column, the user must select a full or partial exemption. Once the selection is made, the user will need to select the indicated antigen. A full Medical Exemption from all school-required vaccines will result in the “Antigen” section defaulting to “All”. Then select the medical provider authorizing the exemption. The date in the last column automatically defaults to the present date. After all information is entered, select “Add”.

A Partial Medical Exemption can be issued when the exemption is for one or more but less than all school required vaccines. Only one antigen can be chosen at a time. Choose a specific “Antigen”, the “Authorizer”, and follow the abovementioned steps. To add more than one antigen you must complete the steps above for each antigen to be included.
Select “Print” to print the exemption, as an approved ADPH medical exemption form will be accepted in lieu of a COI. An example is provided below. Notice the exemption has the approved ADPH seal, and there is no expiration date.

![Exemption Form]

There are two ways for an exemption to expire. The first is when the patient receives an immunization containing the exempted antigen. When the administration of that vaccine is entered into ImmPRINT, the registry automatically applies that administration date as the expiration date.
However, clinic users can also manually enter an expiration date, but note expiration dates cannot be predated. The date entered must be on or before the current date.

The user will access the patient’s medical exemption page, enter the correct date, and select “Update”.
When any and all exemptions have expired, the print function will be unavailable.

Please note that an exemption of any kind does not affect the Vaccine Forecaster’s ACIP recommendations. For partial exemptions, the COI will still print if the child is up-to-date on all other school-required vaccines.

If you are not authorized to issue a Medical Exemption, the following message will appear: