Medical Exemptions

17. A parent or guardian must submit a written statement from a licensed physician (M.D. or D.O.), which states:

- That the physical condition or medical circumstances of the child are such that the required immunization(s) is not indicated.
- Which vaccines are being exempted?
- Whether the medical exemption is permanent or temporary.
- The expiration date, if the exemption is temporary.

18. May other practitioners, besides licensed physicians (M.D.s and D.O.s), provide a medical exemption to a required immunization?

No. Only a licensed Medical Doctor (MD) or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) may provide a medical exemption.

19. Has the State of California issued a standardized form for medical exemptions?

No, but the documentation must include the elements described in question 17.

20. Are licensed physicians required to assist in requests for medical exemptions?

A licensed physician may provide a medical exemption but is not required to do so. Parents or guardians seeking medical exemptions should check with physicians in advance to clarify their policies on medical exemptions.