

## Immunizer Profile: Dr. Faye Goldman



### Ottawa, Ontario

Drs. Goldman, Rosenbloom and Morris

L to R, front row: Dr. Faye Goldman, Dr. Arlene Rosenbloom, Jackie (receptionist)

L to R, back row: Donna (receptionist), Paula (nurse), Dr. Barbara Morris, and Deb (nurse)

Other team members (not in photo): Tarrell (nurse) and Lisa (receptionist)

Dr. Faye Goldman works as one of three family physicians in a small family practice office in Ottawa, Ontario. She graduated as a family physician in 1993 and joined the practice in 2004.

In her youth, Dr. Goldman was attracted to studying medicine while accompanying her father on his weekend rounds to see his patients. Her father was a great role model, who never resented the hours he kept as a physician; rather, he saw it as a privilege to get up in the middle of the night to attend the delivery of a baby or to see to a sick patient. Like her father, Dr. Goldman says it “feeds her soul” to be able to help others.

Dr. Goldman has been immunizing since 1991, when she was a resident in family medicine. A great motivation in her work is the power of prevention, and the opportunity to educate patients about prevention. Immunization is a simple way to prevent disease and enhance quality of life, and plays a major part in her preventive work. Her goals are to keep her patients as healthy and contented as possible, and to advocate for more preventive measures to reduce illness in the community.

Though immunization visits sometimes bring Dr. Goldman scared, crying children, she remains calm and reminds kids and parents that immunization will ensure that they stay healthy. Countering arguments against immunization, and educating, using evidence, are challenges that she enjoys.

“A physician’s greatest role is that of educator. You will need to connect with each of your patients and share your health knowledge and the importance of prevention,” is advice Dr. Goldman gives students and junior colleagues. Essential skills of a family physician are the ability to connect and communicate with people, and the ability to educate.

Dr. Goldman sees the difference immunization has made to the community’s health, especially that of babies and young children. Immunization has drastically reduced the incidence of childhood illness. For instance, when she was in medical school, chickenpox was a common childhood illness; she remembers seeing several very ill children in hospital with complications. Following the introduction of the varicella vaccine, the incidence of chickenpox is now much lower in just a few years. The change has happened before her eyes in less than one generation. Immunizers can make a real difference!

Dr. Goldman is a subscriber to the *CCIAP Bulletin* and uses CCIAP resources in her office.



Canadian Coalition  
for Immunization Awareness  
& Promotion (CCIAP)

[immunize.ca](http://immunize.ca)