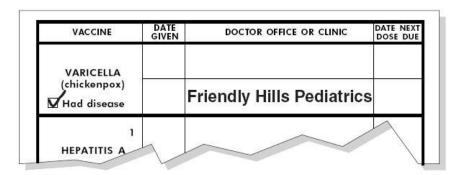
## About the Varicella (Chickenpox) Requirement

Chickenpox is one of the most readily communicable diseases and will spread quickly to susceptible children within a childcare facility. Legislation added chickenpox vaccine to the Idaho Childcare Immunization Law, effective April 7, 2011. Children must show proof of a chickenpox immunization or disease history to attend a licensed childcare facility.

If a child already has had chickenpox, the licensed health care professional will indicate it on the child's immunization record with a note or stamp. Providers will consider clinical diagnosis, laboratory tests, and/or parental history, in deciding if there is sufficient evidence of past chickenpox disease. Here's how they will record disease history:



If the child has not had chickenpox or if the provider is uncertain, the health care provider will vaccinate the child for varicella (chickenpox). This will be recorded with the date on the immunization record as usual. On the child's green Health Folder, transfer the dates as usual or write in disease history like this:



If the child's parent or guardian reports that the child had chickenpox, but does not have proof of disease history and declines the varicella vaccine, a philosophical exemption must be claimed and the box "Varicella Disease History" must be checked. Please note, all children without proof of immunity will be excluded from childcare in the event of a disease outbreak, both for their protection and for the protection of others.

