

## Monthly Immunization Update April 2018

Dear Providers,

This newsletter is meant to keep you up to date on issues related to vaccines quickly and easily. We welcome your comments and questions; please email us at [immunization.program@ventura.org](mailto:immunization.program@ventura.org)



### National Public Health Week 2018: Changing Our Future Together

**National Public Health Week** (NPHW), organized annually by the American Public Health Association, presents an opportunity for communities across the United States to reflect on the contributions of public health and highlight issues that are important to improving our nation. More importantly, NPHW serves as an excellent reminder of why public health exists: to tackle the underlying causes of poor health and disease risk – which are rooted in where we live, learn, work, and play – and ensure that everyone in our nation has a chance at a long and healthy life.

**JOIN THE MOVEMENT** <http://www.nphw.org/> Join us in celebrating National Public Health Week and become part of a growing movement to create the healthiest nation in one generation. We're celebrating the power of prevention, advocating for healthy and fair policies, sharing strategies for successful partnerships and championing the role of a strong public health system.

#### **Help us Celebrate: April 21-28 is National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW)**

From April 21-28, 2018, we will observe [National Infant Immunization Week \(NIIW\)](#). NIIW is an annual observance to highlight the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases and celebrate the achievements of immunization programs and their partners in promoting healthy communities.

- NIIW is an annual observance. We celebrate it as part of World Immunization Week.
- NIIW is a time to highlight the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases.
- VFC providers play a critical role in protecting children from vaccine-preventable diseases.
- Continue to make sure all the babies and toddlers in your practice are up-to-date.
- Check every patient's record at every visit. And remind parents when their child's next immunizations are due.

#### **Vaccines and Immunizations**

Immunization is one of the greatest medical successes in human history. Immunizations have saved millions of lives over the past century.

Children need immunizations (shots) to protect them from certain dangerous childhood diseases. And now, increasingly, vaccines are available to help people of all ages from catching and spreading serious diseases like flu, meningitis, and whooping cough. Getting immunized helps our communities stay healthier. That's because diseases spread more easily from person to person among people who haven't gotten their shots.

Many diseases that have been eliminated in the United States are still common in other parts of the world. That means that dangerous diseases like polio and measles are potentially just a plane flight away.

Infants and young children are at the highest risk from these diseases. Immunizations help your child's immune system to become stronger to fight off these diseases. Each time a child receives an immunization, their immune system becomes stronger.

Protecting babies from whooping cough begins before a baby is even born. All pregnant women are recommended to receive the whooping cough vaccine, or Tdap during each pregnancy. The recommended time to get the shot is the 27th through the 36th week of pregnancy, preferably during the earlier part of this time. This will help protect babies from whooping cough until they can receive their first whooping cough vaccine at 2 months. Learn more about the CDC's Born with Protection campaign at [www.cdc.gov/pertussis/pregnant](http://www.cdc.gov/pertussis/pregnant). Learn more about maternal vaccination at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pregnancy](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pregnancy)

Mandatory Influenza Vaccination or Masking order:

Extension to April 15, 2018 of the Health Officer Order for annual influenza vaccination ([See Memorandum](#)).

#### **NEW IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULES AND FOOTNOTES**

The [2018 Recommended Immunization Schedule for Persons Aged 0 Through 18 Years](#) has been approved by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Family Physicians, and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. A summary of the updates to the 2018 immunization schedule was published in the [MMWR](#) on February 9, 2018, and the figures, footnotes, and tables are posted on the [CDC website](#). For each vaccine, the footnotes summarize the current recommendations for routine and catch-up immunizations and recommendations for high-risk persons. Additional guidance on use of each vaccine may be found in the respective [ACIP vaccine recommendations](#) publications.

We encourage providers to review these resources with all staff that order, manage, prepare and administer vaccines. Please review [VFCletter-2018](#), you can also find it on [www.eziz.org](http://www.eziz.org)

**Immunization Requirements for school:** Visit [www.shotsforschool.org](http://www.shotsforschool.org) to get up to date information on school entry requirements.

#### **VFC PROVIDERS:**

Keep in mind that all VFC communications are always posted on VFC's website, [www.eziz.org](http://www.eziz.org)

You can also view this information on <http://www.vchca.org/for-health-care-providers-cmr-tb-forms> or follow



us on:

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