



# Monthly Immunization Update

August 2023

Dear Providers,

The purpose of this newsletter is to deliver quick and meaningful updates to support our providers in a variety of vaccine settings, and maintain our connection with all of you. We welcome your questions and comments. Please feel free to share this newsletter with all of your colleagues. Thank you!

## National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM)

National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) is an annual observance held in August to highlight the importance of routine vaccination for people of all ages. Use these resources to help you discuss routine vaccinations with your patients and parents during NIAM and throughout the year.

All staff in healthcare practices, including non-clinical staff, play important roles during NIAM:

- Engage in learning opportunities with CDC's [Immunization Education and Training](#) courses.
- Make your practice a supportive space that welcomes [vaccine questions and concerns](#) from patients and parents.
- Use [proven strategies](#) to encourage parents and patients to stay up to date on vaccinations.
- Make [immunization schedules](#) easy for parents and patients to find by displaying them [on your website](#).
- Use tools like [PneumoRecs VaxAdvisor Mobile App](#) to help you make vaccine recommendations.
- Share clear and accurate information about the latest vaccine recommendations, including [COVID-19 vaccines](#).



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## Emergency Vaccine Transport

As temperatures are rising temperature excursions become a threat. It is important to be aware of your protocol for transporting refrigerated or frozen vaccines. For more information on guidelines for emergency vaccine transport for [frozen](#) and [refrigerated](#) vaccines please visit [EZIZ's](#) website.



Example of emergency transport.

# COVID-19 Vaccine Transition to Commercialization

Commercialization is the transition of COVID-19 medical countermeasures, including vaccines, treatments, and test kits previously purchased by the U.S. Government, to established pathways of procurement (commercial market), distribution, and payment by both public and private payers. The anticipated timeline is early fall 2023. Vaccine availability for pediatric and adult populations to follow current models for non-COVID-19 vaccines.

## Pediatric populations:

- Vaccines will be made available through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program for eligible children under 19 years of age.
- Vaccines for privately insured patients will be purchased following similar established mechanisms in healthcare for non-COVID-19 vaccines.

## Adult populations:

- Anticipate limited vaccine supply will be made

available through the Bridge Access Program (BAP) for uninsured/under insured adults

- Vaccines for insured adults will be private supply, obtained via established processes, like non-COVID vaccines.
- For most private insurance plans, vaccines recommended for routine use by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), including COVID-19 vaccines, will be fully covered without a co-pay thanks to the Affordable Care Act.
- For Medicare Part B beneficiaries, COVID-19 vaccinations are covered without cost sharing, and this will continue.
- For Medicare Part D/equivalent plans, ACIP-recommended vaccines will be fully covered at no cost, because of the Inflation Reduction Act.
- Medi-Cal- anticipate will cover COVID-19 vaccines

## Announcements:

- Please join the Immunization Program for our *Annual Immunization Update 2023* on **Tuesday, August 29th from 8:30– 12:30pm**. This training will be available both in– person and online. Please see the [flyer](#) for more information or contact the IZ Program.
- Ventura County Public Health's Immunization Program will be hosting free Tdap events open to the public on the following dates:
  - \* **Tuesday, August 1st**, 1:00PM – 5:30PM at Free Clinic of Simi Valley  
2003 Royal Avenue Simi Valley, CA, 93065
  - \* **Tuesday August 15th**, 3:00PM-7:30PM at Westminster Free Clinic  
1800 South C St. Oxnard, CA 93033
  - \* **Thursday August 10th 2023** , 4:00pm-7:00pm 100 S Mills Rd , Ventura , CA , 93003

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We are on the web!

<https://vchca.org/immunization-program>

or follow us on



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