

Dear Providers,

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

**2019 ACIP Immunization Schedule:** The [2019 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.

[2019 Adult Immunization Schedule for Persons Aged 19 years or older.](#)

The schedule has been approved by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG).

### **CDC redesigns its "Immunization Schedules" web section to provide easier access to information and schedule-related resources**

CDC has substantially redesigned its [Immunization Schedules web section](#) to provide easier access to information and schedule-related resources for healthcare providers, parents, and other adults. The following web pages are new to this CDC web section:

- [Resources for Health Care Providers](#)
- [Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule](#) web page, offering a variety of formats
- [Adult Immunization Schedule](#) web page, offering a variety of formats
- [Changes to This Year's Schedule](#)
- [Resources for Health Care Providers](#)
- [Schedule-Related Resources for Healthcare Providers](#)
- [Schedules and Resources for Parents and Adults](#)

Visit the CDC [Immunization Schedules web section](#) to explore the new design and to access the information you are seeking.

### **FDA approves use of the 0.5 mL dose of Sanofi's Fluzone Quadrivalent influenza vaccine to include children age 6 through 35 months**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved the use of the 0.5 mL dose of Fluzone Quadrivalent influenza vaccine to include children age 6 through 35 months. This means Sanofi will have the 0.5 mL dose in addition to the 0.25 mL dosage available for the upcoming 2019–20 season for this expanded age range.

Access the Sanofi press release: [FDA Approves Use of 0.5 mL Dose of Fluzone® Quadrivalent \(Influenza Vaccine\) in Children as Young as 6 Months of Age.](#)

[Access the updated package insert.](#)

### **Influenza now widespread in 45 states; CDC reports 2 additional pediatric deaths from influenza in the U.S., bringing total to 24**

CDC stated in its [Weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report, FluView](#), that during the week ending January 26, the geographic spread of influenza in 45 states was reported as widespread; Puerto Rico and 3 states reported regional activity; two states reported local activity; the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands reported sporadic activity; and Guam did not report.

CDC has reported 2 additional pediatric deaths from influenza in the U.S. this season, for a total of 24. Last season, there was a record-setting number of pediatric deaths in the U.S. (185), so be sure to protect all your patients for whom vaccination is recommended.

Influenza vaccination is recommended for everyone six months of age and older. If you don't provide influenza vaccination in your clinic, please recommend vaccination to your patients and refer them to a clinic or pharmacy that provides vaccines or to the [HealthMap Vaccine Finder](#) to locate sites near their workplaces or homes that offer influenza vaccination services.

## Continue to protect pregnant women from severe influenza

During pregnancy, women are more susceptible to influenza and serious flu complications, including hospitalization, premature delivery and death. As influenza season continues, please:

- Strongly recommend flu vaccine to all pregnant women in any trimester.
- Promptly treat all pregnant and postpartum women (up to two weeks) with suspected influenza with a neuraminidase inhibitor antiviral. While antiviral drugs work best when treatment is started within 2 days of illness onset, clinical benefit has been observed even when treatment is initiated later.

When influenza is suspected, do **not** wait for test results to begin treatment with antivirals. **Treatment should begin promptly.** See ACOG and SMFM's Influenza Season Assessment and Treatment for Pregnant Women with ILI Algorithm.

## VFC Provider - 2019 VFC Recertification.

- All VFC Providers if you have not complete the recertification please go to [www.eziz.org](http://www.eziz.org).
- Failure to submit your 2019 VFC Recertification will result in suspension of vaccine ordering privileges.
- If you have already submitted your 2019 VFC Recertification, thank you and please disregard this message.

Helpful Tips for Submitting your 2019 VFC Recertification:

- Dedicate enough time to complete the VFC Recertification process.
- All key practice staff must complete the required [EZIZ lessons](#) prior to accessing the online Recertification form on your [MyVFCvaccines](#) account.
- Complete the Recertification Worksheet to gather required information ahead of time.
- Do not wait until the last minute to submit your VFC Recertification!

Have updates to your Key Practice Staff? You can update this information in the online recertification form. If you have already submitted your 2019 Recertification and need to make changes, use the Update Practice Information link on the provider main page in your [MyVFCvaccines](#) account. For changes to the Provider or Record or Designee after your 2019 Recertification has been submitted, a signed Key Practice Staff Change Request Form must be submitted to the VFC Program. For corrections to medical licenses, please contact the VFC Customer Service Center at 1-877-243-8832 for assistance.

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

## Need assistance with CAIR? Contact the CAIR help desk or your local CAIR representative



### Local CAIR Representative:

Monica Hernandez  
California Department of Public Health  
Phone: 805-981-5118

[Monica.Hernandez@ventura.org](mailto:Monica.Hernandez@ventura.org)



The CAIR Help Desk hours are:

**Monday-Friday 8am-5pm**

**Phone:** 800-578-7889 **FAX:** 888-436-8320

**Email:** [CAIRHelpDesk@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:CAIRHelpDesk@cdph.ca.gov)

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/immunization-program>

or follow us on:



**Ventura County Public Health Immunization Program**

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