

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

SAVE THE DATE: February 12, 2019

The Immunization Program will have their annual immunization update.

Presented by: Steven J. Vantine, Education Consultant, California Department of Public Health – Immunization.

Please call 805-981-5211 or email Immunization.Program@ventura.org to reserve your spot.

January is Cervical Cancer Awareness Month; many resources are available for you and your patients

Cervical Cancer Awareness Month is an annual observance in January that can be used to highlight the need to improve HPV vaccination coverage. CDC has suggested sharing the following resources, accessible on its website, for raising awareness of cervical cancer:

- CDC's [Human Papillomavirus \(HPV\)](#) web section for clinicians
- HPV infographic: [Screening Won't Protect Your Patients from Most HPV Cancers](#)
- [Why Is HPV Vaccine Important?](#) web page
- [6 Reasons to Get the HPV Vaccine for Your Child](#)

IAC revises "Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B Vaccines: Be Sure Your Patients Get the Correct Dose"

IAC recently revised [Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B Vaccines: Be Sure Your Patients Get the Correct Dose](#). Changes were made to indicate the lower age for which vaccination should be administered before travel (previously it was 12 months; now it is 6 months), to note that the dose given at younger than age 12 months does not count toward the recommended 2-dose series, and to include an additional reference.

Related Links

- Access all [IAC hepatitis A educational materials for patients and healthcare professionals](#)
- Access all [IAC hepatitis B handouts for patients](#)
- Access all [IAC hepatitis B educational materials for healthcare professionals](#)

VFC Providers

Influenza activity is elevated nationwide, widespread in California- Protect your patients!

Influenza activity is now widespread and increasing throughout the state. Flu vaccination is the first line of defense to prevent flu; it also helps prevent severe outcomes of flu, including hospitalization and death. Influenza can be deadly; and sadly, it has already claimed the lives of two children in our state this season.

As a VFC Provider, we thank you for your ongoing efforts in helping parents understand why influenza vaccination is important: Flu vaccines have been shown to be life-saving in children. We urge your clinic to take the following actions to make sure your patients are protected:

1. Continue to reach out to children and adolescents in your practice, especially those with a higher risk of severe influenza, who have not yet received their influenza vaccine this season.
2. Recall children 6 months through 8 years of age needing their second dose of influenza vaccine (those who have not received at least 2 flu vaccine doses prior to July 2018). Their second dose should be administered at least 4 weeks apart.
3. Check your inventory levels and place a supplemental flu vaccine order as need. Additional doses have been received through CDC's vaccine stockpile to support your clinic's ongoing vaccination efforts. Available products are listed below.

Age	Product	Supply Information Notes
6-35 Months	Pediatric Fluzone® (0.25 mL single dose syringe)	Doses available to all providers.
3-18 Years	Fluzone® (0.5 mL single dose syringe)	<i>! Limited doses available-Please limit use in children 3-4 years of age.</i>
	Fluzone® (5 mL multi-dose vial)	Doses available to all providers.
4-18 Years	Flucelvax® (0.5 mL single dose syringe)	Doses available to all providers.

DEADLINE TO PRE-BOOK 2019-2020 VFC FLU VACCINE

Pre-book requests for your 2019-2020 VFC flu vaccine must be submitted no later than **January 31, 2019**. Due to the short turnaround time for California to pre-book flu doses from the CDC, we will not be able to offer any extensions beyond this due date. If no brand preference is submitted, VFC will allocate brands for ordering based on available products.

2019-2020 PRE-BOOK PROCESS

Log-in to your [MyVFCvaccines](#) account and click on the “Pre-book Flu Vaccine for 2019-2020” button. To facilitate your pre-book process, VFC will display a target number of influenza vaccine doses, and the total number of doses ordered thus far in the current season. Please use this information to supplement your clinic’s seasonal influenza data for VFC-eligible patients to guide your clinic’s vaccine need for the 2019-2020 season. Every patient 6 months and older is recommended to receive an influenza vaccine annually! Some may need 2 doses.

JANUARY 21ST IS THE DEADLINE FOR 2019 RECERTIFICATION

Practices must recertify every year to remain in the VFC Program and to receive VFC vaccines.

Print and review the [2019 recertification letter](#) for details.

Reminders & Tips:

- Use the [2019 VFC Recertification Worksheet](#) before you log on to recertify
- Review the [2019 Program Participation Requirements at a Glance](#)
- Update your practice’s [Vaccine Management Plan](#)
- Complete all the [necessary lessons](#) on the EZIZ training page

Keep in mind that all VFC communications are always posted on VFC’s website, 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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