

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

Immunization Requirements for School: Visit <http://www.shotsforschool.org> to get up to date information on school entry requirements. Make sure vaccine records are up to date! Please review the following links:

[Guide to Immunization Requirements for School Entry](#)

[No Shots? No Records? No School](#)

[New Regulations—Effective July 1, 2019](#)

This communication summarizes information related to the new requirements, medical exemptions, and tips your practice can take to prepare.

Under the California School Immunization Law (California Health and Safety Code, Sections 120325-120375), to protect the public's health, children are required to receive certain recommended childhood immunizations to attend public and private elementary and secondary schools. Note, although not all *recommended* immunizations are required for school, VFC providers are *required to offer all age-appropriate vaccines*—including flu—to the populations they serve.

Effective July 1, 2019, changes in the school immunization law include:

- Requiring 2 (rather than 1) doses of chickenpox (varicella) vaccine at
 - Kindergarten entry
 - 7th grade advancement
 - K-12 admission or transfer
- Requiring 2 Measles, Mumps, & Rubella (MMR) doses and 3 Hepatitis B vaccine doses at admission or transfer more uniformly throughout K-12

Perinatal Hepatitis B virus (HBV)

Hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection in a pregnant woman poses a serious risk to her infant at birth. Without postexposure immunoprophylaxis, approximately 40% of infants born to HBV-infected mothers in the United States will develop chronic HBV infection, approximately one-fourth of whom will eventually die from chronic liver disease.

Perinatal HBV transmission can be prevented by identifying HBV-infected (i.e., hepatitis B surface antigen [HBsAg]-positive) pregnant women and providing hepatitis B immune globulin and hepatitis B vaccine to their infants within 12 hours of birth.

National guidelines call for the following:

- Universal screening of pregnant women for HBsAg during each pregnancy.
- Screening all HBsAg-positive pregnant women for HBV DNA to guide the use of maternal antiviral therapy during pregnancy. AASLD suggests maternal antiviral therapy when HBV DNA is >200,000 IU/mL.
- Case management of HBsAg-positive mothers and their infants.
- Provision of immunoprophylaxis for infants born to infected mothers, including hepatitis B vaccine and hepatitis B immune globulin within 12 hours of birth.
- Routine vaccination of all infants with the hepatitis B vaccine series, with the first dose administered within 24 hours of birth.

[Policies and Procedures for Prenatal Care and Delivery Hospitals](#)

Medical providers are required to report all suspected and confirmed reportable cases of communicable diseases and/or other unusual diseases. This includes Perinatal Hep B positive patients.

[CMR - Confidential Morbidity Report Form](#) - This form includes reportable diseases and reporting time mandates on the second page.

All recommendations approved by ACIP are provisional until they are approved by the CDC director and published in *MMWR*.

Presentation slides from the June meeting should be posted on the [ACIP website](#) in the next 4–6 weeks. The recommendations approved at the June ACIP meeting are now shown in [Ask the Experts](#) at the beginning of the “Vaccine Recommendations” section for [hepatitis A](#), [HPV](#), and [meningococcal B](#) vaccines. When the official recommendations are published by CDC, each [Ask the Experts](#) section will be updated accordingly.

2018-2019 Influenza Vaccine Update:

As we wrap-up this past flu season, and begin to gear up for the 2019-2020 season, please make sure your practice has removed any remaining flu doses from your fridge.

- 2018-2019 flu products have expired at the end of June. If you have remaining flu doses on-hand, remove them from your storage unit immediately, and complete and submit a VFC Return Form by logging into your [MyVFCvaccines](#) account.
- Doses shipped back to McKesson must match doses reported in your electronic Return Form. Do not include expired private vaccine doses, any broken vials or syringes, or open multi-dose vials on the Return Form.
- Each return shipping label requested in the [Return Form](#) is associated with that specific Return ID. Therefore, **ONLY** ship doses listed in the corresponding Return ID/Form.
- Return shipping labels are only valid for 30 days; ensure expired flu doses are returned to McKesson as soon as possible.

August is National Immunization Awareness Month: Every year in August, National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) provides an opportunity to raise awareness of the importance of immunization and the need for improving national vaccination coverage levels.

CDC has provided suggestions to help providers promote vaccination during each week of NIAM. Visit <https://www.nphic.org/niam>

Vaccine Tips

It's summer...and it's getting hot. Is your clinic ready? Summer brings more power outages. As the heat rises, we put more demand on the power grid. Power outages can pose risks for vaccines.

Be prepared in case your clinic loses power. Review – and update if necessary – your clinic's Vaccine Management Plan. **Know what to do BEFORE you lose power.**

Always use VFC-compliant storage units

The Vaccine Storage Unit Specifications section details Program Requirements, Best Practices, Key Terms, and Acceptable Units. VFC prohibits certain types of units, including household-grade combination units and dormitory-style units. Review the [POM](#) for information about unacceptable storage units.

Visit <http://www.eziz.org> for more information. Also, check out [Job Aids & Resources](#).

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

Phone: (805) 981-5211 Fax: (805) 981-5210 immunization.program@ventura.org