



## Monthly Immunization Update March 2019

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)

**Join us by celebrating Preteen Vaccine Week: March 3-9, 2019.** The goals of PVW 2019 are to distribute information and materials through multiple avenues such as schools, providers, and the media to raise awareness about HPV vaccine for girls and boys, Tdap vaccine, meningococcal vaccine, the 2nd dose of varicella vaccine, and to promote the preteen doctor visit.

California has more than one million 11- and 12-year-old boys and girls. Along with the continuing requirement to receive the pertussis booster vaccine (Tdap), State law now requires incoming 7th grade students to have two chickenpox shots before starting school. The federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) currently recommends that 11 and 12-year-olds receive Tdap, meningococcal vaccine, two doses of HPV vaccine, and an annual flu vaccine. Some preteens may also need to catch up on chickenpox vaccine (many don't have the 2nd dose), MMR (measles, mumps, rubella), and hepatitis B vaccine.

### Themed Days:

1. **Monday: HPV Vaccination**
2. **Tuesday: General Awareness / PVW**
3. **Wednesday: Meningococcal Vaccination (MenACWY)**
4. **Thursday: Chickenpox Vaccination**
5. **Friday: Pertussis Vaccination (Tdap)**

**NIIW: A Campaign for Infant and Toddler Month:** Please join us in celebrating **National Infant Immunization Week, April 27 - May 4, 2019** and Toddler Immunization Month in May. The Immunization Branch has materials available you can order by contacting us. Orders must be received by CDPH by Wednesday, March 20, 2019. Please email or fax: [ORDER FORM](#).

National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) is an annual observance to highlight the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases and to celebrate the achievements of immunization programs and their partners in promoting healthy communities.

In 2019, we are celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of NIIW. Since 1994, hundreds of communities across the United States have joined to celebrate the critical role vaccination plays in protecting our children, communities, and public health.

### CDC weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report.

Influenza activity continues to increase in the United States. Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09, influenza A(H3N2), and influenza B viruses continue to co-circulate. [Summary of the key influenza](#) indicators for the week ending February 16, 2019.

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.

**VFC Providers:**

Updating your CA VFC Provider Operations Manual for 2019VFC has enhanced the Provider Operations Manual(POM) to provide additional guidance on topics in several chapters. Instructions: Replace existing pages in your binder with the updated pages in this document. If possible, print on both sides of paper to reduce the number of pages. Because each chapter begins on page one, look to the page headers to ensure replacement pages are inserted in the correct chapters.

**Vaccine Safety:** REMINDER: You must inspect every vaccine shipment!

- Inspect the package for damage.
- Open it immediately and verify vaccines were shipped within the correct temperature range.
- Check the monitor (for refrigerated vaccines) or shipping date (for frozen vaccines).
- Check the packing slip to verify you received what you ordered.
- Store the vaccines properly.

Use the [Vaccine Receiving Log and Checklist](#) to guide you. If you have any concerns, call the VFC Customer Service Immediately.

Keep vaccine storage equipment, including thermometers, running smoothly by changing your batteries?

**VFC Eligibility Reminder:**

To be eligible for VFC vaccines, children must be 18 years of age or younger and meet one of these criteria: Be eligible for Medi-Cal or CHDP or Have no health insurance coverage or Be American Indian or Alaskan Native Screen every patient at every visit. Document their eligibility in a VFC-compliant record keeping system.

**FLU VACCINES EXPIRE ON DIFFERENT DATES:** Double check the expiration dates of all the flu vaccine in your practice. Always remove expired vaccine from the refrigerator. Report expired vaccines through My VFC Vaccines. Remember, call your VFC Rep if you have short dated vaccine or have questions.

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:



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