



Monthly Immunization Update

May 2022

Dear Providers,

This newsletter is meant to keep you updated on issues related to vaccines quickly and easily and maintain our connection with all of you. We welcome your questions and comments. Please feel free to share this newsletter with your colleagues. Thank you!

New Hep B Screening Law

California's new law, which can be found [here](#), states that as of January 1st, 2022, **primary care providers in California are now required to offer screening test to patients meeting United States Preventative Services Task Force risk criteria.** For hepatitis B that criteria includes persons born in countries with hepatitis B virus infection prevalence of $\geq 2\%$ and others at risk for infection.

Along with this new law, there have been updates to the [Adult Immunization Schedule](#). The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) now recommends **hepatitis B vaccination for all adults 19 to 59 years** regardless of risk factors. For more information on the Hep B vaccine update, please see the [MMWR](#) by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Inside this issue:

<i>New Hep B Screening Law</i>	1
<i>May is Hepatitis Awareness Month</i>	1
<i>COVID-19 Vaccine for Children Under 5 Year</i>	2
<i>Kid Vax Grant</i>	2
<i>For your Information</i>	2

May is Hepatitis Awareness Month

Hepatitis awareness month is a time Public Health brings attention to the impacts of this disease, also on the importance of prevention. Hepatitis A and B can be prevented by proper vaccination.

May 19th has been designated Hepatitis Testing Day. Those who are at high risk of becoming infected with hepatitis are encouraged to get tested.

The CA Department of Public Health shared an informative vaccine tips sheet through the Vaccine For Children's Program. You can find the tip sheet [here](#).

For more information on how you can help spread awareness please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [Viral Hepatitis website](#).

COVID-19 Vaccine for Children Under 5 Year Old Coming Soon



Pfizer and Moderna are currently holding clinical trials for children under 5 years. With over 2 million children under 5 years of age soon eligible for immunization against COVID-19, the time to prepare is now. Although COVID-19 vaccine requirements will not be implemented in schools sooner than July 1, 2023, the distribution of vaccine for children 6m-4 years should receive Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) around mid-June. We can prepare for this

by becoming knowledgeable on COVID-19 vaccines, to be able to answer questions by patients and families. You can also become a COVID-19 vaccine provider. Most people, especially pediatric patients and their families, trust the information shared with them by their primary care physicians. For more information please visit the EZIZ California COVID-19 Vaccination Program website at eziz.org/covid.

KidsVaxGrant

The State of California continues to offer grant funding to Vaccine for Children (VFC) providers for the administration of COVID-19 vaccine. The Kids Vax Grant program conducted a webinar, which you can access [here](#), that details the infor-

mation of the grant and how it works. For more information on the grant please visit the Physicians for a Health California website at www.phcdocs.org. Applications are being accepted till May 27th, 2022, or until funds are disbursed.

For Your Information

- You can register to receive CA Department of Public Health COVID-19 alerts. Register [here](#).
- CDPH will be hosting a **COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Billing and Reimbursement Webinar**. You can register to attend [here](#).

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We are on the web!

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

or follow us on



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