


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

See following link for the Ventura County Flu Clinics Schedule

[Click here](#)  to view the 2019-2020 Flu Clinics Schedule.

CDC releases 10 updated Vaccine Information Statements

On October 30, CDC released new interim Vaccine Information Statements (VISs) for Hib, HPV, PCV13, polio, and rotavirus vaccines. CDC also released final VISs for cholera, PPSV23, typhoid, and zoster (both live and recombinant) vaccines.

- [Cholera](#)
- [Haemophilus influenzae type b \(Hib\)](#)
- [HPV \(Human Papillomavirus\)](#)
- [Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine \(PCV13\)](#)
- [Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine \(PPSV23\)](#)
- [Polio](#)
- [Rotavirus](#)
- [Typhoid](#)
- [Live Zoster \(Shingles\)](#)
- [Recombinant Zoster \(Shingles\)](#)

Most Pregnant Women Aren't Getting Vaccinated

Currently, the rates for these vaccines are too low—only 1 in 3 pregnant women in the United States receives both flu and Tdap vaccines.

We don't want to miss any opportunity for pregnant women to protect themselves and their newborns from these devastating illnesses. Flu vaccination lowers risk of influenza hospitalization in pregnant women by an average of 40%. It also reduces the risk of her baby needing hospital care for influenza. When an expecting mother gets Tdap in the third trimester, it is 78% effective in preventing cases of whooping cough in babies less than 2 months old. Tdap vaccination during pregnancy is even more effective at preventing hospitalization due to whooping cough in newborns.

Below are other key points from the report:

- Women with influenza are more than twice as likely to be hospitalized if they are pregnant, and babies less than 6 months old are at the highest risk of all children for influenza-associated hospitalization.
- The majority (69%) of reported whooping cough deaths are in babies less than 2 months old.
- Reported maternal flu and Tdap vaccination coverage rates were 54% and 55%, respectively.
- Provider recommendations are vital—among women whose healthcare providers offered vaccination or provided referrals, 65.7% received a flu vaccine and 70.5% received Tdap—but many pregnant women do not receive the vaccines recommended to protect themselves and their newborns, even when offered vaccination. The most commonly reported reasons for non-vaccination were belief that the flu vaccine is not effective (17.6%) and not knowing that Tdap vaccination is needed during each pregnancy (37.9%).

- Providers should start discussing the benefits of vaccination with women early in pregnancy, strongly recommend flu and Tdap vaccines to all pregnant women, and address women’s questions and concerns about getting vaccinated during pregnancy.



It's Not Too Late For a Flu Vaccine

Getting a flu vaccine every year is the best way to protect yourself and your family from flu and its potentially serious complications. CDC recommends that everyone 6 months and older get vaccinated. What is new this flu season? Flu vaccines have been updated to better match circulating flu viruses; any licensed, age-appropriate flu vaccines are recommended; the nasal spray flu vaccine (LAIV) is again a vaccine option. [CDC's seasonal flu vaccination campaign](#) materials are available to assist partners in communicating about the importance of vaccination. This digital toolkit includes details on events/activities, sample social media and newsletter content, graphics, web assets, and media prep material. This material is downloadable, shareable, and some of the material is customizable. Join the conversation on social media with the hashtag #FightFlu.

VFC PROVIDERS:

Vaccine Management During Public Safety Power Shutoffs

A [Public Safety Power Shutoff \(PSPS\)](#) is a practice used by utility companies to preemptively shut off power in high fire risk areas during potentially dangerous weather conditions. Public Safety Power Shutoffs can last several hours to many days. Their impact may extend across city and county lines.

Take steps to prevent exposing your vaccines to out-of-range temperatures. Exposing vaccines to out-of-range temperatures, whether in their storage units or during transport, can result in reduced potency and risk of vaccine-preventable diseases. <http://eziz.org/vaccine-management/power-shut-offs/>

VFA PROVIDERS:

The California Vaccines for Adults (VFA) program was created by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to increase adult vaccination rates and decrease disparities in immunization coverage by:

- Providing no-cost vaccine for uninsured or underinsured adults 19 years of age and older to eligible* California health centers
 - Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)
 - FQHC Look-Alikes
 - Rural Health Centers (RHCs)
 - Tribal Health Centers
 - Indian Health Services (IHS) Centers
- Assisting centers participating in the program in integrating the [standards for adult immunization practice](#) (ARAD – Assess, Recommend, Administer, Document) into routine clinical care.

VFA program vaccines are purchased with limited federal funds called Section 317 funding and are referred to as 317-funded VFA vaccines. Most vaccines routinely recommended for adults by the federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) are available through the VFA Program.

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS

By enrolling in the VFA program, organizations agree to implement activities, processes and workflows in support of the program’s goals to increase adult vaccination rates and decrease disparities in immunization coverage, by providing no-cost vaccine to their eligible adult patients and integrating the [standards for adult immunization practice](#) into routine clinical care. All VFA providers must adhere to the programmatic

requirements outlined below for the term referred to as VFA Year 3, regardless of the date of their enrollment in the VFA program.

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:



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