

Dear Providers,

This newsletter is meant to keep you up to date on issues related to vaccines quickly and easily. We welcome your comments and questions; please email us at immunization.program@ventura.org

Mandatory Influenza Vaccination or Masking of Health Care Workers During Influenza Season: On August 3, 2015 Ventura County Health Officer issued a mandatory order that all Hospitals, Ambulatory and Community Clinics, Skilled Nursing and other Long Term Care Facilities, other Licensed Health Care Facilities, and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Provider Organizations to receive an annual influenza vaccination or, if they decline, to wear a mask during the influenza season while working in patient care areas. [To read the complete mandated order](#) follow link.

December 6-12, 2015 is National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW), a national observance that highlights the importance of continuing influenza vaccination.

NIVW provides an opportunity for public health and health care professionals, health advocates, communities and families across the country to work together to promote flu vaccination. We know that many partners across the United States have plans to participate in NIVW, and the success of NIVW relies upon the involvement of partners at all levels.

CDC offers a variety of [resources for Flu Prevention Partners](#) including 2015 NIVW Key Points, posters, brochures, ecards, and buttons. <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/pdf/nivw/nivw-activities-11-24-2015.pdf>

Flu Season is here. CDC is Urging Everyone to Get Vaccinated against Flu. Everyone 6 months and older is recommended for annual flu vaccination with rare exception. [This page lists all people recommended](#) to get the flu vaccine, who can and can't get the flu shot or the nasal spray vaccine and who should take precautions or talk to their doctor or other health care professional before vaccination. Talk to your doctor or nurse if you have any questions regarding which flu vaccine options are best for you and your family

New Law (SB 277) Effective in 2016: Governor Brown signed Senate Bill (SB) 277 on June 30, 2015. Starting in 2016, SB 277 will:

- No longer permit immunization exemptions based on personal beliefs for children in child care and public and private schools;
- Permit personal belief exemptions submitted before January 1, 2016 to remain valid until a pupil reaches kindergarten or 7th grade;
- Remove immunization requirements for:
 - Students in home-based private schools
 - Students enrolled in an independent study program who do not receive classroom-based instruction
 - Access to special education and related services specified in an individualized education program

Students in the above categories will still need to provide immunization records to their schools before entry, and schools will still need to report to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) the immunization status of all students at the existing checkpoints of child care, kindergarten and 7th grade.

[Review Entry requirements by age>](#)

CAIR Update:

- To register for electronic data submission, go to the CAIR IZ Portal
- To enroll in CAIR to get web access, register at CAIR New Enrollment
- To update your Account/ add Users, go to CAIR Account Update
- Existing CAIR Accounts: How Do I Update Our CAIR Account Info, Add New Users, or Change User Status?

- To update information for an existing Organization/Site or any associated User Accounts including: inactivating current User accounts, adding New Users, and changing User access levels, authorized representatives of the Organization/Site can now login to the CAIR Account Update page to make these changes.

Your local CAIR Representative is Monica Hernandez 805-981-5118 email: monica.hernandez@ventura.org

To VFC Providers:

2016 VFC Recertification is COMING SOON! The VFC Program will be launching 2016 Recertification mid-December. The anticipated launch date will be the week of December 14, 2015. As in previous years, once the system is available, providers will have 30 days to complete the process. The following information will help your practice get a head start and collect required information ahead of time. [VFC Recertification Practice Worksheet.](#)

2016 VFC EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENT

To access the online 2016 VFC Recertification page, key practice staff must first complete the federal educational requirement lessons available on our website www.EZIZ.org. You may begin taking most of the required lessons and receive credit for completion starting December 1, 2015. If you complete the lessons before December 2015, you will not receive credit for 2016 Recertification.

A new online interactive lesson, called "Monitoring Storage Unit Temperatures" will be available this year. This lesson replaces two previous lessons called "Monitoring Refrigerator Temperatures" and "Monitoring Freezer Temperatures," combining key information into one comprehensive training. This new lesson, along with a review and acknowledgement of the new 2016 VFC Refrigerator and Freezer Temperature Logs will be available once Recertification is open. In the meantime, key practice staff can begin completing the other lessons that are available starting December 1, 2015.

The VFC Program Customer Service Center will be closed during the following dates:

- Tuesday and Wednesday, **December 1 - 2, 2015** (All-Staff Meeting)
- Friday, **December 25, 2015** (Christmas Holiday)
- Friday, **January 1, 2016** (New Year's Day)
- Monday, **January 18, 2016** (MLK Holiday)

Vaccine Orders: Orders will continue to be received during these call center closures. Normal business hours will resume after each event. Please ensure that your practice has an adequate supply of VFC vaccines in stock to prevent running out of inventory during holiday closures.

Holiday Vaccine Shipment Schedule: VFC's National Vaccine Distributor, McKesson Specialty, and Merck (shipments of varicella-containing vaccines) will not ship VFC-supplied vaccines during the following dates:

- **December 21, 2015 through January 1, 2016.**

Vaccine deliveries will resume the week of January 4, 2016. For any ordering or delivery questions, please call a VFC Customer Service Representative at (877) 243-8832 Monday through Friday 9am to 5pm or visit us at our website: www.eziz.org

You can also view this information on <http://vchca.org/public-health/for-health-care-providers> or follow us on:



Ventura County Public Health Immunization Program

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