

Monthly Immunization Update February 2015

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 <u>immunization.program@ventura.org</u>

Immunization Schedule: The 2015 Recommended Immunization Schedule for Persons Aged 0 Through 18 Years has been approved by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Family Physicians, and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. A summary of the updates to the 2015 immunization schedule was published in the MMWR on February 6, 2015, and the figures, footnotes, and tables are posted on the CDC website. For each vaccine, the footnotes summarize the current recommendations for routine and catch-up immunizations and those for high-risk persons.

UPDATES TO THE 2015 SCHEDULE: Changes were made to the 2015 Immunization Schedule. Information on DTaP, Tdap, pneumococcal vaccines, meningococcal conjugate vaccines, MMR, Hib, varicella, and influenza vaccines was clarified. Contraindications to LAIV were updated.

MMR Vaccine: The recommendation for MMR vaccine for infants 6-11 months of age prior to international travel was highlighted with a purple bar (denoting a recommendation for a high-risk population). These children should still receive two doses of MMR vaccine on or after their first birthday. In addition, children 12 months and older should receive 2 MMR vaccine doses prior to international travel (minimum interval between doses is 4 weeks).

Measles: A measles outbreak originating in one of the state's amusement parks December 2014, has now spread to over 102 people throughout California and 14 other states. On January 23, 2015, CDC issued a Health Advisory to notify public health departments and healthcare facilities about this multi-state outbreak and to provide guidance for healthcare providers nationwide.

Ensure Children and Adults are Fully Vaccinated

- Administer MMR on schedule to children. Catch-up vulnerable adults; MMR recommendations are based on age and risk.
- Ensure that you have an adequate supply of MMR vaccine, including VFC-supplied MMR for VFCeligible patients and privately-purchased MMR (if clinic also serves non-VFC eligible patients).
- Educate parents about the dangers of measles and the benefits of timely MMR vaccinations.
- Ensure that your staff have documentation of immunity to measles (two doses of MMR or measles IgG positivity), mumps, rubella, and varicella. Also check for a Tdap vaccine and an annual flu shot.

Cair Updates: Online Enrollment

- Please use this to add a NEW site.
- Requests will be approved/denied/placed on hold within 3 business days.
- If you are an existing site that needs to make changes to/add users and/or shotgivers, please use the Account Update located at http://accountupdate.cairweb.org.

Please contact Monica Hernandez @ 805-981-5118, <u>Monica.hernandez@ventura.org</u> your Local CAIR Representative with any questions on the status of your new enrollment

To VFC Providers:

VFC Recertification : The deadline for submitting VFC's Annual Recertification has been extended to February 27, 2015. In keeping with your VFC provider agreement, providers should follow the recommended 2015 ACIP immunization schedule. We encourage providers to review the 2015 immunization schedule, complete footnotes, and catch-up schedule together with all staff, especially those who order and administer vaccines. We recommend that the 2015 schedules, including footnotes, be posted for reference in the office. For more information and updates visit <u>www.eziz.org</u>

Reminders and Tips:

Key staff must complete the lessons before the practice can recertify.

- The Provider of Record and their Designee need to take 4 lessons.
- The Vaccine Coordinator and their Back-up need to take 5 lessons.
- Each lesson takes about 15-20 minutes. Plan accordingly.
- Access the lessons on EZIZ's training page.

Organize your info before you log on.

- Review the January 8, 2015 Recertification letter for details.
- Verify healthcare providers' license numbers.
- Gather your practice's storage unit and thermometer info.
- If you have questions or forget your password, call the VFC Program.

Do not create a new account.

Keep in mind that all VFC communications are always posted on VFC's website, <u>www.eziz.org</u>

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

Ventura County Public Health Immunization Program

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