

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

Immunization Schedule: Changes in the 2016 Adult Immunization Schedule reflect ACIP recommendations summarized in [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices Recommended Immunization Schedule for Adults Aged 19 Years or Older — United States, 2016](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6504a5er.htm)(<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6504a5er.htm>).

Primary changes to the schedule include:

- Interval change for 13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV13) followed by 23-valent pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV23) from "6 to 12 months" to "at least 1 year" for immunocompetent adults aged ≥ 65 year who do not have immunocompromising conditions, anatomical or functional asplenia, cerebrospinal fluid leak, or cochlear implants ([MMWR 2015;64\[34\]:944–947](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/64/wr/mm6434a1.htm)). The interval for adults aged ≥ 19 years with any of these conditions is at least 8 weeks.
- Serogroup B meningococcal (MenB) vaccine series should be administered to persons aged ≥ 10 years who are at increased risk for serogroup B meningococcal disease ([MMWR 2015;64\[22\]:608–612](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/64/wr/mm6422a1.htm)).
- Men B vaccine series may be administered to adolescents and young adults aged 16 through 23 years (preferred age is 16 through 18 years) to provide short-term protection against most strains of serogroup B meningococcal disease ([MMWR 2015;64\[41\]:1171–1176](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/64/wr/mm6441a1.htm)).
- Nine-valent human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine (9vHPV) has been added to the schedule and can be used for routine vaccination of females and males against HPV ([MMWR 2015;64\[11\]:300–304](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/64/wr/mm6411a1.htm)).
- [See the Comprehensive ACIP recommendations for the use of vaccines included in the adult immunization schedule](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/index.html)(<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/index.html>).

NIIW: A Campaign for Infant and Toddler Month: Please join us in celebrating **National Infant Immunization Week, April 16 - 23, 2016** and Toddler Immunization Month in May.

National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) is an annual observance to promote the benefits of immunizations and to improve the health of children two years old or younger. Since 1994, local and state health departments, national immunization partners, healthcare professionals, community leaders from across the United States, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have worked together through NIIW to highlight the positive impact of vaccination on the lives of infants and children, and to call attention to immunization achievements.

2016 NIIW, we will be celebrated as part of World Immunization Week (WIW), an initiative of the World Health Organization (WHO). During WIW, all six WHO regions, including more than 180 Member States, territories, and areas, will simultaneously promote immunization, advance equity in the use of vaccines and universal access to vaccination services, and enable cooperation on cross-border immunization activities.

The [Shots for School website](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/index.html) now features a look-up tool that will aid in identifying [child care centers](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/index.html) with low immunization rates. Search by zip code or facility/school name to view immunization rates in your area.

Providers should also review Toolkits and information provided by CDC @

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/events/niiw/overview.html>

Ask the Experts: CDC Experts Answer your Questions: As it pertains to pneumococcal and zoster vaccines. <http://www.immunize.org/nsit.d/n66/n66.pdf>

To VFC Providers: In order to prevent delays with the delivery of your vaccine shipments, VFC requests that prior to submitting a vaccine order, your clinic's vaccine delivery days and hours on your "MYVFCVaccines" page is verified to make sure they are accurate. Shipments delivered according to outdated delivery information not only increases shipping costs due to multiple delivery attempts, but may result in a negligent vaccine loss for the practice.

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

1. Inspect the package for damage.
2. 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).
3. Check the packing slip to verify you received what you ordered.
4. 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?

What's New in 2016 Temperature Logs: Online Documentation and Reporting!

Report excursions to MyVFCvaccines.org every time temperatures get TOO WARM or TOO COLD.

The report will give you instructions to:

- Continue to use vaccines,
- Return vaccines, or
- Contact vaccine manufacturers for further guidance.

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 MyVFCVaccines. 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

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

on:  

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