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

CDC releases updated VISs for DTaP and MenACWY vaccines
On August 24, CDC released revised Vaccine Information Statements (VISs) for DTaP and MenACWY vaccines. The new DTaP VIS reflects ACIP recommendation changes regarding contraindications and precautions for vaccination. The new MenACWY VIS removes reference to the meningococcal polysaccharide vaccine (MPSV4) which is no longer available in the United States. Otherwise, changes to this VIS are minimal. CDC encourages providers to begin using these VISs immediately; however, stocks of the previous editions may be used until gone.

- Meningococcal ACWY Vaccine VIS
- DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis) Vaccine VIS

Related Links
- Visit IAC's VIS web section for VISs in more than 35 languages
- CDC's What New with VISs web page

CDC publishes ACIP’s 2018–19 influenza vaccination recommendations
CDC published Prevention and Control of Seasonal Influenza with Vaccines: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices—United States, 2018–19 Influenza Season in an August 24 MMWR Recommendations and Reports. The Summary section is reprinted below.

This report focuses on the recommendations for use of vaccines for the prevention and control of influenza during the 2018–19 season in the United States. A Background Document containing further information and a summary of these recommendations are available at https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/vacc-specific/flu.html.

These recommendations apply to U.S.-licensed influenza vaccines used within Food and Drug Administration–licensed indications. Updates and other information are available at CDC’s influenza website (https://www.cdc.gov/flu). Vaccination and healthcare providers should check CDC’s influenza website periodically for additional information.

Get your practice ready for flu season
Flu season is right around the corner. Make sure your practice is ready to both vaccinate and communicate the importance of flu vaccination.

- Flu VISs are no longer updated every year. The edition dated 8/7/2015 should be used for the 2018-19 flu season.
- Refer to the latest influenza vaccine recommendations from the ACIP.
- Strongly recommend flu vaccine to all your patients age six months and older. The strongest predictor of getting vaccinated is a provider’s recommendation.

Tragically, few of the many pediatric flu deaths last season were vaccinated. Last season’s flu vaccine was 36%-67% effective. A 2017 study showed that children vaccinated against flu cut their risk of dying from influenza by half (51%)
IAC updates “Influenza Vaccine Products for the 2018–2019 Influenza Season”

IAC recently updated its 1-page table for healthcare professionals titled Influenza Vaccine Products for the 2018–2019 Influenza Season. Changes were made to update the product billing code information for the Flucelvax multi-dose vial and to remove Fluzone, Intradermal, and Fluvirin influenza vaccines that will not be distributed for the 2018–19 season.

Adult Vaccinations- You’re never too old to get vaccinated!

Recently updated, IAC’s Adult Vaccination web page on immunize.org is full of resources from IAC and its partner organizations to help you vaccinate adults this fall or any time! This web page is easy to find from anywhere on immunize.org. From the light gray banner across the top of every immunize.org web page, select the "Clinic Tools" tab (third from the left). Then select "Adult Vaccination" from the drop-down menu.

In the left-hand column of the page, you will find IAC’s educational tools related to adult immunization, including handouts for healthcare professionals and for patients, standing orders templates, and a link to all IAC Adult Vaccination education materials.

In addition, in the right-hand column of the web page, you will find links to adult vaccination resources from IAC's partner organizations, including CDC, American College of Physicians, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, American Academy of Family Physicians, National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit, National Vaccine Program Office, and National Foundation for Infectious Diseases.

In both columns you will find prominent display boxes that link to IAC's 142-page book Vaccinating Adults: A Step-by-Step Guide.

Find all the resources and tools you need for adult immunization by visiting IAC's Adult Vaccination web page at www.immunize.org/adult-vaccination today!

To see the Adult Immunization Schedule visit: CDC Adult Immunization Schedule

VFC PROVIDERS:

Initial flu vaccine doses have been received at VFC’s vaccine distributor enough to begin processing and fulfillment of VFC provider orders in queue. Please expect initial flu shipments to start arriving the week of September 17, 2018.

Shipments will include approximately 30% of your confirmed order. The remaining balance of your order after this initial shipment will be automatically processed in multiple shipments (3-4 additional shipments) over the next 4-6 weeks, or sooner depending on available vaccine supply. Provider orders of 100 doses or less will be shipped in full for available products. Please refer to the Vaccine Order Status tab on EZIZ for details on supply levels by vaccine product.

In preparation for the receipt of your vaccine shipments and the start of your 2018 influenza vaccination efforts, we encourage your practice to follow these steps.

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:

Ventura County Public Health Immunization Program

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