



Volume 5, Issue 8

August 2015

Mark Your Calendars:

Current Topics in Immunization

August 22, 2015

The Classic Center, Athens

Immunize Georgia Conference

September 11, 2015

Crowne Plaza Atlanta Perimeter

**August
is National Immunization
Awareness Month**

**How will you promote awareness about
Immunizations this month?**

Check out page 3 of the EPIC Insider for some ideas.....

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CDC's [ACIP Home Page](#) has additional guidance for providers regarding 9-vHPV vaccine use among persons who previously received 2vHPV or 4vHPV vaccine.



Gov. Jerry Brown Signs California Vaccine Bill

Sacramento Bee (06/30/15) Siders, David; Koseff, Alexei; White, Jeremy

Gov. Jerry Brown of California on Tuesday signed one of the strictest schoolchild vaccination laws in the country, eliminating personal and religious belief exemptions for vaccines. "The science is clear that vaccines dramatically protect children against a number of infectious and dangerous diseases," Brown said. "While it's true that no medical intervention is without risk, the evidence shows that immunization powerfully benefits and protects the community." Brown noted that the bill exempts children whose family medical histories lead a physician to recommend against immunization. The bill will make California the third state in the nation to require vaccines without religious and personal belief exemptions. Opponents of the legislation promised to challenge the law in court and potentially through a referendum at the ballot box, arguing it will deprive unvaccinated children of their constitutional right to an education. Proponents of the measure said unvaccinated children put kids who are too young or sick to be vaccinated at risk.

More Parents See Benefits of Vaccines, Poll Finds

Reports on outbreaks of measles, whooping cough in past year may have shifted opinions, pediatrician says



MONDAY, July 6, 2015 (HealthDay News) -- American parents' views about childhood vaccines became more favorable over the past year, a new poll finds.

During that time, a number of measles and whooping cough outbreaks made headlines across the country, the researchers noted.

"Over the last year, there have been high-profile news stories about outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases like measles and whooping cough. These news reports may be influencing how parents perceive childhood vaccines across the country," Dr. Matthew Davis, director of the University of Michigan C.S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll, said in a news release. Davis is also a professor of pediatrics and internal medicine at the University of Michigan Medical School.

"Outbreaks of disease can safely be prevented through childhood vaccination, but there are deeply held convictions about parents' autonomy and remaining concerns among some parents about vaccine safety," he said.

The researchers conducted their survey in May. They found that one-third more parents recognize the benefits of vaccines, compared to a year earlier. They also found that one-quarter more parents believed vaccines were safe than did last year. Additionally, one-third more parents than last year supported requirements that children be vaccinated before entering day care and school.

"For a quarter to a third of parents to say that their views on the safety and benefits of vaccines have shifted in just a year's time is quite remarkable," added Davis.

About 40 percent of the parents in the poll said they believe the risk of measles for children is higher than it was a year ago. Around 45 percent of parents said the risk is the same. But, 15 percent said the risk of measles is lower than it was a year ago, the researchers said.

Davis said the perception among parents that vaccines are safer and offer more benefits is consistent with their stronger support of school entry requirements for immunizations.

Media coverage may be swaying parents' opinions, but the impact of those changes won't truly be seen unless more parents choose to vaccinate their children, Davis concluded.

More information

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has more about [childhood vaccines](#).

SOURCE: University of Michigan Health System, news release, July 6, 2015

National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM):

NIAM is an annual observance in August to raise awareness and highlight the value of immunization across the lifespan. Activities focus on encouraging people of all ages to protect their health and the health of their loved ones by getting vaccinated against vaccine-preventable diseases. This year, the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) is coordinating NIAM activities across the country. NPHIC has collaborated with NCIRD to develop communication toolkits with sample key messages, FAQs, sample media materials, social media messages, and other resources to help you promote vaccination during NIAM and throughout the year. The [2015 toolkits](#) are available for download. The toolkits contain specific information for each of the month's weekly themes: [preteens and teens \(August 2–8\)](#), [pregnant women \(August 9–15\)](#), [adults \(August 16–22\)](#), and [infants and children \(August 23–29\)](#). Visit NPHIC's [NIAM website](#) to learn more. You can also visit CDC's [NIAM events page](#), for includes additional information and resources for NIAM. We encourage you to use social media throughout the month to share and promote NIAM activities. This year's NIAM specific hashtag is #NIAM15, and we will also be using #TeamVax throughout the month to show how individuals, communities, partner organizations, and healthcare professionals work together to support vaccination. Share your plans for NIAM by completing this [online form](#) and see what [other organizations](#) have planned to inspire your own activities.

CDC: Immunization Works Newsletter-July 2015

Sanofi Pasteur Ships First 2015-2016 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Doses in U.S.

Infection Control Today (07/14/15)

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has released the first doses of Sanofi Pasteur's Fluzone vaccine for the 2015-2016 influenza season, marking the first of more than 65 million total doses manufactured by the company that will be shipped to healthcare providers and pharmacies in the United States. The company will offer several Fluzone options during this season: Fluzone

High-Dose for adults aged 65 years and older; Fluzone Intradermal Quadrivalent, a micro injection system intended for adults aged 18 to 64 that protects against four strains of influenza; Fluzone Quadrivalent, which protects against four strains in people ages six months and older; and Fluzone, a trivalent vaccine approved for people ages six months and older. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends annual flu vaccination for all people ages six months and older.

Sandra Deal Promotes Childhood Immunizations In Sandy Springs

Georgia's First Lady earlier this week visited Northside Hospital's Women Center.

By **KRISTAL DIXON** (Patch Staff) July 18, 2015

Georgia First Lady Sandra Deal on Monday visited the Northside Hospital Women's Center as part of her statewide tour of Georgia hospitals to discuss the importance of childhood immunizations with new mothers and fathers.

More babies are born at Sandy Springs' Northside Hospital than at any other hospital in the United States. At Northside, First Lady Deal made personal visits to several families, who had delivered over the weekend, offering each a free Hallmark immunization card to aid them in keeping their new baby's immunization records organized. The pocket-sized card allows parents to keep their child's immunization records in their wallet, where they are easily accessible during school or athletics registration, and doctor's appointments.

"If you have this piece in your wallet, the nurse or you can write that down," Deal said. "We want the child to be immunized properly and this little piece of paper helps with that."

Cindy Gambon, operations manager for Northside Hospital's Family Centered Care, added it's important to talk about immunization because it can keep babies and the general population healthy.

"The benefits of immunizations last for most of their lives and they can prevent very devastating illnesses from occurring," Gambon said. "It's important to follow your doctor's advice and get the immunizations that they are asking of you and recommending for your baby."

First Lady Deal's tour of Georgia hospitals is a part of the Georgia Children's Cabinet's campaign for Immunization Awareness month, which promotes protecting the health and safety of all Georgia Children.

Safe Vaccine Storage: Don't Be Left Out in the Cold

The Georgia Chapter, American Academy of Pediatric hosted this webinar July 23, 2015.

You can access the archived webinar by clicking on the link below.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/g2wattendee/recording/7613368523462511873>

Adverse Events After Routine Immunization of Extremely Low-Birth-Weight Infants

JAMA Pediatrics (06/01/2015) DeMeo, Stephen D.; Raman, Sudha R.; Hornik, Christoph P.; et al.

Researchers compared the incidence of sepsis evaluations, increased respiratory support, intubation, seizures, and death among more than 13,900 immunized extremely low-birth-weight (ELBW) infants during the 3 days before and after immunization. Incidence of sepsis evaluations increased from 5.4 per 1,000 patient-days before immunization to 19.3 per 1,000 patient-days after immunization. The need for increased respiratory support rose from 6.6 per 1,000 patient-days before immunization to 14 per 1,000 patient-days after immunization. Between the two periods, intubation increased from 2 per 1,000 patient-days to 3.6 per 1,000 patient-days. Infants born at 23–24 weeks' gestation had a higher risk of sepsis evaluation and intubation after immunization. Prior history of sepsis was associated with higher risk of sepsis evaluation after immunization. Adverse events were similar across immunization types, including with combination vaccines, so there is no evidence that providers should not use combination vaccines for ELBW infants.

Question of the Week

IAC Express Issue 1192: July 7, 2015

If a patient began the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine series with 4-valent HPV vaccine (4vHPV, Gardasil, Merck), can the series be completed with 9-valent HPV vaccine (9vHPV; Gardasil 9)? Should a booster dose of 9vHPV be given to persons who have already completed the 4vHPV series?

ACIP recommendations, published in March 2015 (www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/wk/mm6411.pdf, page 300), state that 9vHPV may be used to complete a series begun with a different HPV vaccine. There is currently no recommendation for supplemental doses of 9vHPV following a completed series of 2vHPV or 4vHPV.

Question of the Week

IAC Express Issue 1193: July 14, 2015

We have a child who received the second dose of hepatitis A vaccine 3 months after the first dose. A repeat dose (dose #3) was given 4 months after the (invalid) second dose. Both dose #2 and dose #3 appear to be invalid because the intervals were less than 6 months. Should this child receive a fourth dose of hepatitis A vaccine?

It is true that the recommended minimum interval between doses of hepatitis A vaccine is 6 calendar months. If the second dose is given too early, the repeat dose should be given 6 months after the invalid dose. However, in this situation CDC has recommended that dose #3 can be counted as valid if it was separated by at least 6 months from the first dose. So a fourth dose would not be recommended for this child.