TO: EZIZ Users

FROM: CDPH

SUBJECT: New Recommendations for Pneumococcal Vaccination

DATE: 10/3/14

Dear Immunization Partners,

In the September 19, 2014, <u>MMWR</u>, CDC released new pneumococcal vaccination recommendations. Adults 65 years of age or older are now recommended to get the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV13, Prevnar-13®) followed by the pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV23, Pneumovax®23) 6-12 months later. As adults start to visit their healthcare professionals for their annual flu shot, it's also an opportunity to raise awareness for the importance of pneumococcal vaccination and to educate healthcare professionals and the general public on the new recommendation.

To help inform healthcare professionals and the public of this new recommendation, CDC has developed materials. Below are a number of activities your organization can do to help raise awareness for this new recommendation.

You can help increase awareness among healthcare professionals by:

- Sharing the link to the MMWR article.
- Placing the ready-to-publish article titled <u>"CDC Releases New Recommendations for Pneumococcal Vaccination"</u> in your newsletters, on your website, or in other venues that reach healthcare professionals.
- Distributing the <u>Pneumococcal Frequently Asked Questions</u> factsheet. This
 factsheet was developed to help healthcare professionals address common
 questions patients ask regarding pneumococcal vaccination.
- Linking to CDC's <u>Pneumococcal Vaccination</u> page.
- Posting social media messages on your profiles that reach healthcare professionals.

Ideas for increasing awareness among adults 65 years or older include:

- Sharing CDC's <u>Adult Pneumococcal Vaccine</u> feature on your social media platforms.
- Distributing the ready-to-publish article titled "Older Adults Can Get Added <u>Protection against Pneumococcal Disease This Flu Season"</u> in community newsletters, on websites, or in local news outlets.
- Linking to CDC's <u>Adult Vaccination</u> website on your social media platforms and websites. The website has been updated to reflect the pneumococcal recommendation.
- Posting social media messages on your profiles that reach older adults.

The latest information about <u>pneumococcal vaccination</u> recommendations and additional provider resources can be found on the <u>CDC website</u>.

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