Immunization Branch, California Department of Public Health, 850 Marina Bay Parkway, Building P, Richmond, CA (510) 620-3737

To: Immunization Program Coordinators
   California Immunization Coalition members
   VFC Providers

October 2016

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CAIR2 Begins!

This is historic. The transition of California’s Immunization Registry (CAIR) from CAIR1 to CAIR2 is underway! As of October 3, registry users in the Northern California, Greater Sacramento, Central Coast, and Inland Empire regions, along with all data-exchange sites, have migrated to CAIR2. This is the first of a three phase process. Migration required
- training thousands of Regular and Power users on the new CAIR2 software,
- transferring data from the regional registries, and
- redirecting data-exchange site submissions.

Over the past 16 years, California sought to build a statewide immunization registry. Originally, we had 21 county registries. Then, we formed regional registries. Later, most regions adopted the CAIR system first created by Contra Costa County. CAIR2 is a software system already in use by several other states but customized for California. Find out more about CAIR2. New CAIR2 videos and user guides help users navigate CAIR2.

Now Phase 2 is in process. Users in the Bay Area and Central Valley regions can register for training, get ready to move to CAIR2, and check the CAIR2 timeline for transition dates. Phase 3 will begin in February 2017 for users in Los Angeles and Orange Counties. Users from San Diego, San Joaquin, and Imperial counties will continue to use their current software, which will be linked to create a statewide registry by the fall of 2017. Stay tuned for more updates next year.
Statewide IZ Campaigns

Prepare for Flu Season!

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released its 2016-17 Influenza Key Points. Consider CDC’s "Take 3 Actions to Fight the Flu" in your messaging to different audiences: 1.) Get a flu vaccine, 2.) Prevent the flu, and 3.) Take flu antiviral drugs if your doctor prescribes them.

For more resources, visit the EZIZ.org flu resources page, including Flu and Tdap Social Media Messages, the new 2016-17 Pediatric/Adult Influenza Vaccine Guide, and recently updated Flu Prevention Tips in English and Spanish.

New ShotByShot Stories!

The California Immunization Coalition has added to its online storybank of compelling stories, including
- Cecilia’s story, a healthy young woman who died from flu;
- Nathan’s story, a child hospitalized from flu;
- Mobius’ Story, an infant infected with measles during the Disneyland outbreak; and
- HPV Survivor Stories, which shares Christine, Tamika, and Frank’s journeys with HPV-related cancers.

Use them in your communications with patients, schools, and community audiences. Check back often at www.shotbyshot.org, as more stories will be posted online. To keep up, "Like" them on Facebook. For more information, contact Tammy.Pilisuk@cdph.ca.gov.

Epi Data/Outbreaks

Southern California Meningococcal Disease Outbreak

Since March 2016, there has been an outbreak of serogroup C meningococcal disease in Southern California, primarily among men who have sex with men (MSM). Thus far, 27 cases have been identified, the largest meningococcal disease outbreak among MSM yet identified in the U.S.

Health officials are urging all MSM in Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego Counties to receive quadrivalent meningococcal vaccine (MenACWY/MCV4). In addition, all HIV-infected people are also
recommended to receive MenACWY because of their increased risk for meningococcal disease. CDPH has been meeting with local health departments and other partners to facilitate prevention messages, media events, community-based vaccination clinics using 317 publicly-funded vaccines, and ongoing disease testing, surveillance, and control efforts. For more information, read the CDPH FAQs, CDPH’s Clinician Health Advisory, press release, and the MMWR report on the outbreak. Stay tuned for new target population-specific educational materials, coming soon.

Pertussis Infant Death

For the second time in 2016, a young infant in California has died of pertussis. This death is a devastating reminder that prenatal care providers should make a strong recommendation and referral (if Tdap is not offered on-site) to ensure that all pregnant women are immunized with Tdap between 27-36 weeks gestation during every pregnancy. Since postpartum Tdap vaccination and cocooning do not provide direct protection to the infant, these two strategies are no longer considered optimal.

We Want You! Help Sentinel Influenza Surveillance

The California Influenza Surveillance Program needs your help! CDPH is working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and clinicians across the state to conduct surveillance for influenza-like illness (ILI) in outpatients. Sentinel providers help assess the timing, location, and impact of influenza strains circulating in your communities. It takes most providers fewer than 30 minutes a week to compile and report their data. To join, complete the enrollment form. For more information, email InfluenzaSurveillance@cdph.ca.gov or Christina.Moore@cdph.ca.gov or call (510) 620-3761.

Vaccine News

2015 California NIS-Teen Data: Room for Improvement

In the CDC National Immunization Survey of adolescents age 13-17 years (NIS-Teen), California’s statewide immunization numbers were no higher in 2015 than in 2014. Read more. While California has met Healthy People 2020 Goals for Tdap, coverage of other adolescent vaccines lags behind. Resources to help immunization advocates and clinicians include:

- Our Preteen vaccine checklist (pictured here, also available in Spanish).
- A new HPV Vaccination STEPS Guide (developed by the HPV Vaccine Roundtable) to increase HPV vaccine uptake in any clinical practice.
- An expanded 2017 HEDIS measure, to include 3 doses of HPV vaccine for both sexes by age 13.
Flu Shots Reduce Hospitalizations in Adults 50+

Influenza vaccine had a 56.8% vaccine effectiveness rate in preventing hospitalization caused by influenza in adults ages 50-75 years. Read more.

California Flu Shot: Racial/Ethnic Disparities

In California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) data from 2011-12, black adults were 33% less likely than white adults to be vaccinated against influenza. Certain groups of Asian-Americans had higher rates. Read more.

Maternal Antibody Protection from Influenza Vaccine Limited after 8 Weeks

In a study of more than 1,000 infants, protection against influenza provided after prenatal immunization of their mothers decreased after the infants’ age of eight weeks. Findings suggest that infants >2 months and <6 months, who are too young to be vaccinated, are vulnerable to influenza. Read more.

Maternal Tdap Reduces Disease Severity in Infants

Infants infected with pertussis, whose mothers were vaccinated with Tdap during pregnancy, were less likely to be hospitalized and had shorter hospital stays, compared to infants of unvaccinated mothers. Vaccine efficacy was 72% for preventing hospitalization. Read more.

Maternal Tdap Much Better Than Postpartum in Protecting Newborns

Prenatal immunization with Tdap during 27-36 weeks gestation was found to be 85% more effective in preventing pertussis in infants <8 weeks of age compared to postpartum immunization. Read more.

Review of HPV Vaccination Best Practices Shows What Works

A systematic review of HPV vaccination strategies reveals that an approach using two or more interventions (e.g., clinician communication support, parent education, electronic prompts for providers, or parent reminders) appears to produce the best results. Read more.

Provider Education

Medi-Cal Expands Access to Adult Immunizations

The Medi-Cal fee-for-service (FFS) contract drug list has been updated to include ACIP-recommended adult immunizations as a pharmacy benefit. An August 31, 2016, Medi-Cal managed care (MCMC) All Plan Letter clarified that MCMC plans must also provide these adult immunizations on their pharmacy formulary. Currently, a number of MCMC health plans already cover adult immunizations as a pharmacy benefit. Additionally, Medi-Cal expanded their Presumptive Eligibility (PE) program for pregnant women to offer a full range of influenza vaccine products. Previously, the PE program had only included intradermal influenza vaccine. Learn more about Medi-Cal Eligibility online.

Top Vaccine Errors Summarized

The Institute for Safe Medicine Practices (ISMP) analyzed its Vaccine Errors Reporting Program (VERP) data between 2012 and 2016. Top errors are ranked below:

- Incorrect vaccine (23%)
- Incorrect age vaccinated (20%)
- Incorrect vaccine dose (12%)
- Extra vaccine dose (9%)
- Incorrect vaccine interval (7%)

For additional details and information to help prevent errors, read more in ISMP’s newsletter.
Contra Costa County Increases Prenatal Tdap

More than 90% of pregnant women who have their babies at Contra Costa Regional Medical Center (CCRMC) are now getting vaccinated for whooping cough, thanks to a collaborative effort between the Contra Costa Health Services' hospital and health centers, public health, and information technology (IT).

Despite the 2013 recommendation by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists to vaccinate pregnant women with Tdap during their third trimester, Tdap uptake in pregnant women and provider awareness had been suboptimal. The increase in rates resulted from workflow changes identified by the county’s new immunization task force, including scheduling the third trimester Tdap during the initial prenatal visit—and adding an alert to the county's electronic health record system that reminds clinicians to vaccinate. Kudos to the task force for their success! For more information, contact Paul.Leung@hsd.cccounty.us.

New Regulations for Pharmacists to Report to Immunization Registries

California Regulations (Title 16, Section 1746.4), in effect since August, now require pharmacists to: 1) Report immunizations into the immunization registry and inform the patient about record-sharing preferences; 2) Maintain the vaccine record at the pharmacy and provide a copy to the patient; and 3) Notify a patient’s primary care provider (PCP) of immunizations administered within 14 days. For pregnant women, the pharmacist should notify the prenatal care provider. Patients without a PCP should be advised to consult a health-care provider.

Immunization Assessment News

Fall School Assessment Reporting Deadlines

Child care and kindergarten and 7th grade immunization assessment reports due dates have extended until November 15 this year due to updates to the reporting portal. Instructions can be found at www.ShotsForSchool.org/reporting.

Quick Points for Reporting: Facilities and schools
- are mandated to report,
- that cannot locate their name on the online list should contact their local health departments to add/edit facilities and schools.
- may call their local health department to submit a paper form if they lack Internet access.
- can revise their submitted reports by logging back into the reporting site, and
- should direct questions to SchoolAssessments@cdph.ca.gov.

The Immunization Branch thanks Immunization Coordinators and schools for their efforts to keep California’s school children healthy. For additional information, contact Kristen.Sy@cdph.ca.gov.
Digital Data Logger Requirements

A digital data logger (DDL) continuously records and stores temperature data. Starting January 1, 2017, the California Vaccines for Children (VFC) program will require DDL use for all VFC vaccine storage units. All VFC offices will continue to record temperatures on VFC temperature logs twice daily.

The DDL implementation will be effective through 2017 and will be part of 2018 VFC provider recertification. Download the DDL Training Resource and read digital data logger FAQs on EZIZ.org.

New IZ Branch Staff

**Sarah New** is an Epidemiologist, currently working on influenza, hepatitis A, and pertussis surveillance. She previously worked at the STD Control Branch on viral hepatitis. Sarah has a BS in Kinesiology from Cal State East Bay and an MPH in Global Health from Touro University.

**Monique Jones** is a Data Exchange Specialist with our CAIR team, helping to validate data connections used with CAIR. Monique previously was an Epic Clinical Educator at Stanford Healthcare. Monique studied nursing at American River College in Sacramento.

**Dineka Mason** is a new Customer Service Representative for the VFC program. Dineka previously worked at the UCSF Medical Center’s ACC Call Center. She studied at Contra Costa College.

**Wilberto Yi Donoy** is also a new Customer Service Representative in the VFC Program. Wilberto came to the Branch after working in customer service at Target. He is currently attending Laney College.

**DJ Visbal** is a new Web Developer for the CAIR team. Before coming to the Branch, DJ worked at UC Berkeley in the same capacity. He has a BS in Computer Science from UC Santa Cruz.

Events, Conferences, and Observances

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<td>Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices Meeting</td>
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<td>October 22-25</td>
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<td>American Public Health Association Annual Meeting</td>
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Online Training/Archived Webinars

**General/Misc.**

- PPT presentations from the 2016 National Immunization Conference, now online! (CDC)
- Updates from June 2016 ACIP Meeting (National Foundation for Infectious Diseases-NFID)

**Adolescent Immunization**

- Someone You Love (documentary film) CNE, CME and PharmD continuing education available
- Promising Practices: Improving HPV Vaccination Rates (American Association of Pediatrics)
- Vaccines for Preteens and Teens: The Importance of Timely Vaccination for All Adolescents: The Importance of Being AFIX, and Tools for Successful Visits (CDC)
- Using Immunization Information Systems to Increase HPV Vaccination Uptake PPT slides (American Immunization Registry Assn.)
- Survive or Thrive: Using Neuroscience to Envision Adolescent Success, PPT (California School-Based Health Alliance)
### Adult Immunization

- *Influenza Prevention in Adults Age 65 Years and Older* (National Foundation for Infectious Diseases-NFID)
- *HPV Prevention & Treatment in Special Populations: HPV in Sexual and Gender Minorities (SGM)* (Assn. of Reproductive Health Professionals)
- *College Students and Meningococcal Disease: Are Students Protected?* (National Foundation for Infectious Diseases-NFID)
- *Implementing a System-Wide Immunization Requirement at the University of California PPT slides* (CA Immunization Coalition)

### New Materials/Online Resources

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<td>Vaccine Acronyms and Abbreviations IMM-1233 (new!)</td>
<td>Report Guide: Fact Sheet Infographic, PPT Slides Flow Chart Chart Letter Chart FAQ Poster</td>
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<td>No Shots? No Records? No School, poster</td>
<td>Spanish (Depending on availability, this resource may be available for free from your local health department.) Report Guide: Fact Sheet Infographic, PPT Slides Flow Chart Chart Letter Chart FAQ Poster</td>
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