



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

July 2016

Lead story: Announcing the Vaccines For Adults Program

Statewide Campaigns

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- ShotByShot Debuts New Pertussis Story
- Enhanced Pertussis Surveillance Reveals Need for Education

Epi Data/Outbreaks

- Meningococcal Disease Outbreak In Southern California
- MenB Outbreak at a California University

Vaccine News

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- Pregnant Women’s Flu Shots Protect their Babies
- Using Different Rotavirus Vaccine Okay, to Complete Series

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- Getting Ready for School Entry: Implementation of SB 277
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Announcing the Vaccines for Adults Program!

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Immunization Branch launched the Vaccines for Adults (VFA) Program for eligible Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC), FQHC Look-Alikes, and Rural Health Centers (RHC). The clinics have requested access to adult vaccines in order to provide free or low cost immunizations to uninsured or underinsured adults (19 years of age and older). Vaccines supplied through this program will be funded with limited federal Section 317 funding. The program timeframe is for a one-year period (and will be extended as funding permits). To date, the first round of applicants have been notified; more are currently under review.

Through this program, most vaccines recommended for adults by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) will be available for distribution to approved applicants from June 2016 through the end of April 2017. Find much more on EZIZ.org’s home page under [About the VFA Program](#), including the new [VFA flyer](#) (seen here) in both English and Spanish.

Do I qualify for no-cost or low-cost vaccines through the California Vaccines for Adults (VFA) program?

You may be eligible to receive no-cost or low-cost* vaccines at your doctor's office or local clinic if you:

- Are 19 years of age or older
- Are uninsured (have no health insurance)²
- Are underinsured³

Vaccines are one of the safest and most effective ways to protect your health and your family's health.

Ask your doctor's office or local health clinic about the VFA Program today!

State of California Vaccines for Adults (VFA) Program:
 Phone: (877) 243-8832

*Providers may charge up to \$26.03 per dose.
²Adults enrolled in Medi-Cal/Medi-Cal managed care plans do not qualify for VFA.
³Underinsured means you have health insurance, but it doesn't cover vaccines, only covers some vaccines, or has a fixed dollar limit for vaccines. You may be eligible for certain vaccines if you do not have Medicare Part D.

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Since January 2016, there have been 37 pertussis cases reported among infants <4 months of age, and 15 pertussis surveillance forms have been completed and submitted to CDPH. Twelve of the mothers whose babies later developed pertussis were not vaccinated during pregnancy; six of these did not recall a provider recommendation and five stated they refused their provider's recommendation. These preliminary findings suggest that there is still a great need for provider and patient education about the importance of prenatal Tdap. Receiving Tdap during the third trimester is essential to ensure transfer of maternal antibodies before delivery, so the baby is born with protection against pertussis. Postpartum Tdap vaccination and cocooning are no longer [optimal strategies](#) to prevent pertussis in infants.

ShotByShot.org Debuts New Pertussis Story

The California Immunization Coalition's ShotByShot.org launched [London's Story](#) featuring a Northern California mom, Aubrey, recounting her harrowing time at the hospital with baby daughter London while battling pertussis. Aubrey admits she had been offered the Tdap vaccination while pregnant but thought she didn't need it until after her baby was born. She offers a poignant message to both providers and other parents. Visit www.shotbyshot.org to find this and other stories of vaccine-preventable diseases.



Vaccine News

ACIP Recommends to Discontinue LAIV for 2016-17

In June, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) passed an interim recommendation that live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV), also known as the "nasal spray" flu vaccine, should not be used during the 2016-17 flu season. ACIP continues to recommend annual flu vaccination, with either the inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV) or recombinant influenza vaccine (RIV) for everyone 6 months and older. The recommendation was based on data showing lower effectiveness of LAIV from 2013 through 2016.

According to the CDC, LAIV accounts for up to 14 million of those doses (about 8% of the U.S. supply of flu vaccine). Providers who have purchased or pre-ordered vaccine will need to consult with the manufacturer or vaccine distributor. Based on manufacturer projections, it is expected that supplies of IIV for the 2016-17 season should be sufficient to meet demand. Nonetheless, providers may need to check more than one supplier or purchase a flu vaccine brand other than the one they usually select.

Pregnant Women's Flu Shots Protect Their Babies

In nearly 250,000 women and infants studied, babies born to mothers who reported getting a flu vaccination while pregnant had an 81% risk reduction for hospitalization due to influenza. There was also a 64% risk reduction in influenza-like illness in babies' first 6 months of life. [Read more.](#)

Using Different Rotavirus Vaccines Okay, to Complete Series

In over 2,400 children cases studied, mixing different brands of rotavirus vaccine to achieve the complete three-dose series was found to be comparable in effectiveness to vaccinating with only one rotavirus vaccine brand. [Read more.](#)

Provider Education

CIC 2016 Summit Presentations Available Online

For those unable to attend the California Immunization Coalition's Summit last April in Sacramento, 17 speaker presentations from the the 1.5-day meeting are now available on the [Coalition's website](#). Topics include an ACIP update, school-based flu vaccination programs, protecting vulnerable populations, immunization requirements for child care staff and college students, an update on CAIR2, and more.



Introducing: Let's Get Healthy California

Let's Get Healthy California is a shared vision for the future health of California; promoting **better health, better care, lower costs** and **health equity**. It is a commitment to become a healthier state through joint efforts across six goal areas; Healthy Beginnings, Living Well, End of Life, Redesigning the Health System, Creating Healthy Communities, and Lowering the Cost of Care.



As the California Department of Public Health's State Health Improvement Plan, Let's Get Healthy California aims to improve health and health care for all Californians by leveraging **data, innovation** and **collaboration** to reduce disparities and improve population health outcomes at the community level. One of the several indicators included in the 'Healthy Beginnings' goal area is childhood immunizations. Efforts to address this indicator and others are forthcoming. To learn more about Let's Get Healthy California, visit the website: <http://letsgethealthy.ca.gov>.

CAIR News

CAIR2: On Track, New Resources

Many new updates are being made available to keep CAIR users and anyone interested in CAIR2 abreast of our progress. Find new [CAIR2 FAQs](#) on a variety of topics, including [training](#), benefits for providers, and data exchange, posted on the [CAIR2 Project page](#).

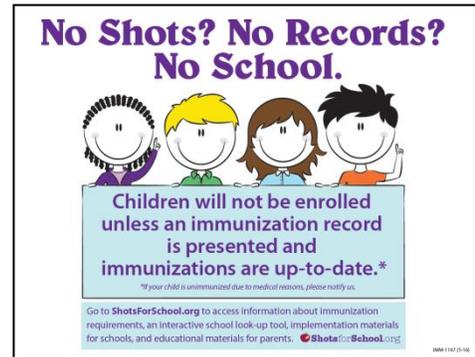
The CAIR2 Project Team are performing user acceptance testing (UAT) to test the functionality and make any final programming adjustments before the launch. To help prepare users for the launch, see the new [Launch checklist](#) and [glossary](#) posted on the CAIR2 Project page.



School Immunization and Assessment News

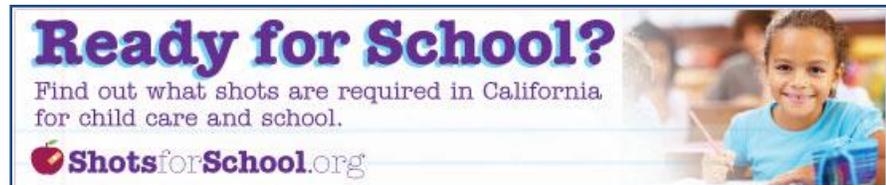
Conditional Entrant Intervention Project Report Now Online

As reported in our last issue, thanks to the hard work of local health departments participating in the Conditional Entrant Intervention Project, the number of under-vaccinated kindergarteners in California schools decreased by 12,682 students from 2014-15 to 2015-16. The biggest reductions were observed in schools with initial conditional entrant rates of 25% or greater. A [final report](#) is now available online. Contact Jane.Pezua@cdph.ca.gov for additional information.



Getting Ready for School: Implementation of SB 277

Last March, the Immunization Branch sent a [letter to schools](#) reminding them that 6th graders with previously filed personal beliefs exemptions (PBEs)



will be subject to immunization requirements beyond just one dose of Tdap when they advance into 7th grade. The communication also included a [template letter](#) from schools to parents of 6th grade students with a PBE. Find these archived letters on the shotsforschools.org website.

In addition, www.ShotsforSchool.org has other resources to help you with SB 277 implementation:

- SB 277 FAQs in [English](#), [Spanish](#), and [Russian](#)
- [No Shots? No Records? No School.](#) poster (Available to LHDs in hardcopy now!)
- [California Immunization Handbook](#), 9th Edition (Updated March 2016)
- [Immunization Requirements 101](#) (Updated version will be available later this summer!)

For additional information about school immunization resources, contact Jane.Pezua@cdph.ca.gov.

Planning for Fall Reporting is Underway!



The Immunization Branch announces some upcoming changes to Fall immunization assessment reporting. School nurses, Immunization Coordinators, and others will be notified about new reporting categories affecting child care and kindergarten reports. Communications to schools go out in August.

The changes enable us to capture true up-to-date student immunization status by accounting for all students not fully vaccinated. Stay tuned for a new look for the immunization assessment reporting portal, coming soon!

Branch Staff Updates

Karen Turner is now Section Chief of Field Services at the Immunization Branch. Karen has been with the Branch for many years, most recently serving as Acting Section Chief and Senior Field Representative, and prior to that was a regional manager for CAIR.

Connie Chung-Bohling is a new Data Analyst, assisting to analyze CAIR data to implement adult immunization programs. Before joining the Branch she worked as a Researcher at Stanford University Center for Policy/Primary Care and Outcomes Research. Connie has an MPH in Epidemiology from the University of Arizona.

Naveen Makdum, MBBS is a graduate student intern at the Immunization Branch assisting with the Branch's HPV Vaccine E-Reminder Pilot Project. Naveen is working toward her MPH at the UC Berkeley, focusing on infectious diseases and vaccinology. She earned her medical degree in Pakistan.

Events, Conferences, and Observances

Date	Event	Sponsor
August	National Immunization Awareness Month	CDC
August 29-31 Atlanta GA	HPV Roundtable National Meeting	American Cancer Society
September 13-16 Atlanta GA	National Immunization Conference	CDC

New Online Resources

New Materials/Online Resources	Type
<p>Vaccine Educational Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protect Your Little One With Immunizations (IMM-234) Spanish ▪ California Immunization Handbook, 9th Edition ▪ Guide to Immunizations Required for Child Care Spanish ▪ Parents' Guide to Immunizations Required for Child Care Spanish Chinese Russian ▪ Guide to Immunizations Required for School Entry Grades K-12 Spanish ▪ Parents' Guide to Immunizations Required for School Entry Spanish Chinese Russian ▪ No Shots? No Records? No School. Spanish poster (Available to LHDs in hardcopy now!) ▪ ShotsforSchool web banner and web buttons (A B) ▪ Vaccines for Adults flyer (English and Spanish) 	<p>Brochure Handbook Brief Guide Brief Guide Brief Guide Brief Guide Brief Guide Poster Web Banner Flyer</p>
Online Training/Archived Webinars	
<p>General/Misc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Immunization Awareness Month: Strategies for Maximizing Digital Impact (VicNetwork) ▪ Travel Vaccines: Know Before You Go (National Foundation for Infectious Diseases) <p>Adolescent Immunization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meningococcal Serogroup B: Impacts and Recommendations (California Immunization Coalition) <p>Adult Immunization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Shingles Vaccines: What You Need to Know (National Foundation for Infectious Diseases) 	