

Immunization Branch

August is National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM)

Dear EZIZ Users,

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<u>Month</u> (NIAM). This annual observance highlights the efforts of healthcare providers to protect patients of all ages against vaccine-preventable diseases through on-time vaccination.



This year, NIAM serves as an important reminder to catch up on routine visits and vaccinations that may have been disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Check out the available resources in the CDPH <u>Don't Wait – Vaccinate toolkit</u>!

Each week of NIAM will have a different focus: this week it's on adolescents. Compared to other age groups, adolescents have experienced the largest decrease in wellness visits due to the pandemic. As a result, routine vaccine coverage rates also decreased significantly among adolescents. In California, there is still a deficit of approximately 15-20%!

Make sure all of your adolescent patients are protected and up to date on vaccinations against serious vaccine-preventable diseases:

 Tdap vaccine to protect against tetanus, diphtheria, and whooping cough (pertussis).

- HPV (human papillomavirus) vaccine to protect against cancers caused by HPV.
- Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MenACWY); Teens and young adults may also be vaccinated with a serogroup B meningococcal vaccine.
- Flu vaccine every year to protect against influenza.
- **COVID-19 vaccine**, now recommended for kids ages 6 months and older. Kids 5 years and older should get a booster shot.

Remember that all of the above vaccines can be safely administered on the same visit!

Adolescent HPV Vaccination in California: Where Do We Go From Here?

Join us on Wednesday, August 3, at 12:00 PM for a special webinar, "<u>Adolescent</u> <u>HPV Vaccination in California: Where Do We Go From Here?</u>" This webinar will provide an update on best practices and strategies for improving vaccination rates for adolescents and ensuring that the HPV vaccination is initiated and completed. Cohosted by the CA HPV Vaccination Roundtable and California Immunization Coalition, the webinar is part of <u>California HPV Vaccine Week</u>, an observance dedicated to encouraging parents of preteens aged 9-13 years to get their kids vaccinated to protect against cancers caused by HPV. Register for the webinar using <u>this link</u>.

Post on Social Media:

California teens and tweens are behind on their #HPVvaccines – which means they are behind on their #CancerPrevention. Is your child up to date? Here's what parents need to know: <u>https://youtu.be/ckOaNQsNrhU</u> #CaliforniaHPVFree #caHPVvaxweek



Resources for Parents:

- Adolescent Vaccine Schedule for Parents (CDC)
- Protect Your Preteen/Teen with Vaccines flyer (English | Spanish)
- How Important is HPV Vaccine for Preteens and Teens flyer (English | Spanish | Russian)
- Factsheet on Serogroup B Meningococcal Vaccines