


Erica Pan, MD, MPH
Director and State Public Health Officer

Gavin Newsom
Governor

September 30, 2025

IZB-FY-25-26-02

TO: California Vaccines for Children (VFC) Providers

FROM: Robert Schechter, M.D., Chief 
Center for Infectious Diseases
Division of Communicable Disease Control, Immunization Branch

SUBJECT: New Law Impacting California's Immunization Policies & Updated
Respiratory Virus 2025-2026 Recommendations

Dear California VFC Providers:

Recently, state law was updated by [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 144](#) to ensure Californians continue to have access to life-saving vaccines, based on recommendations from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH).

These changes to California law are summarized on the CDPH website in:

- [Letter to providers from the State Public Health Officer](#)
- [AB 144: Vaccines Questions and Answers](#)
- [Public Health For All](#) webpage, which will also share updates to CDPH recommendations.

In addition, regardless of recent federal deliberations, CDPH continues to recommend a birth dose of Hepatitis B vaccine and that parents have an option to choose a combination measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella (MMRV) vaccine for their children for their first dose.

The California Vaccines for Children Program is awaiting additional clarification from the federal government on the timing and availability of COVID-19 vaccines for VFC-eligible children, as well as eligibility guidance on the combined MMRV vaccine once updated VFC resolutions are signed and adopted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). We will promptly share updates once available.

Note: Until a new VFC resolution is published, VFC providers may continue to follow guidance based on the currently published resolution [No.10/17-3, Vaccines to Prevent Measles, Mumps, Rubella, and Varicella](#).

The [California Department of Health Services has recently clarified](#) that:

- Medi-Cal will continue to cover COVID-19 vaccinations for all persons age 6 months and older.
- Medi-Cal will have the ability to cover childhood vaccines outside of VFC if recommended by one or all the above organizations (CDPH, AAP, ACOG, AAFP), even if ACIP does not recommend them.