



# Alaska Immunization Program

## Back to School

Back to school season brings an increased demand for vaccines in provider offices. It is important to evaluate vaccine orders to meet this demand without overstocking your unit. A key component is to evaluate your current and historical VacTrAK administration data. You can review the last thirty days, as well as, administration data for July and August 2017. Aggregate administration data by vaccine is available in the "[Vaccine Administration](#)" report found in the Report Module. Using this data will help you anticipate needs as you place orders during this busy season.

## Adolescent Vaccinations

Back to school time is the perfect time for checking all Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended vaccinations for kids of all ages. In July, the Alaska Immunization Program will be mailing personalized Progress Reports to enrolled providers with current facility coverage rates for the three adolescent vaccines: Tdap, MenACWY, and HPV. Following the Progress Report mailing, reminder recall postcards will be sent out to teens who are overdue for any of these vaccine doses. Please be aware of possible inquiries to your facilities regarding these postcards and vaccines.

## Influenza Update

As the 2017-18 influenza season comes to a close, it remains a high severity season with a predominance of influenza B viruses. View the U.S. report in this [MMWR](#), and Alaska

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surveillance data on the Infectious Disease Program's [web page](#).

For the 2018-19 influenza season, the use of quadrivalent live attenuated influenza (FluMist) vaccine is approved. Providers may choose to administer any licensed, age-appropriate influenza vaccine. There is no preferential recommendation by the ACIP. Check out the recent [MMWR](#) on the topic.

The Alaska Immunization Program will offer the following influenza vaccine products for the 2018-19 influenza season:

#### Pediatric Influenza Vaccine

- Sanofi Fluzone pre-filled syringe, 0.25mL, quadrivalent, 6- 35 months
- Sanofi Fluzone multi-dose vial, 5mL, quadrivalent, ≥6 months
- GSK Fluarix pre-filled syringe, 0.5mL, quadrivalent, ≥36 months

#### Adult Influenza Vaccine

- Sanofi Fluzone multi-dose vial, 5mL, quadrivalent, ≥6 months
- GSK Fluarix pre-filled syringe, 0.5mL, quadrivalent, ≥36 months
- \*Sanofi Fluzone High-Dose pre-filled syringe, 0.5mL, trivalent, ≥65 years

\*A limited number of Sanofi Fluzone High-Dose vaccine will be available for providers who serve patients 65 years and older.

## Shingrix Update

Shingrix, the new vaccine indicated for prevention of herpes zoster (shingles), is now available to order through the Alaska Immunization Program for adults aged 50 through 64 years who meet all other [eligibility criteria](#) for state-supplied vaccines. Shingrix is listed within your McKesson order set in VacTrAK and is available in a 1 or 10 dose box.

Due to the ACIP recommendation that Shingrix is preferred over Zostavax, you should process a return for any Zostavax once you receive Shingrix vaccine at your facility. See

the [Zostavax Return instructions](#) on how to properly reconcile the doses out of your inventory.

Check out this [infographic](#) and remember these important facts about Shingrix:

- 2-dose series (0, 2-6 mos)
- Stored in the refrigerator (NOT the freezer)
- Reconstituted before use
- Administered intramuscularly

Carefully review the Shingrix [Epi Bulletin](#), GSK's [resources](#) and CDC's [MMWR](#) for more information.

## American Cancer Society and HPV Vaccine

The American Cancer Society is working through its network of public health staff throughout the country to improve provider awareness and education. In addition, ACS partners with the Alaska Immunization Program to facilitate system changes that increase the availability and utilization of the HPV vaccine. In June, 2018, ACS launched Mission: HPV Cancer Free, a public health campaign to eliminate vaccine-preventable HPV cancers, starting with cervical cancer. To contact your local American Cancer Society Cancer Control Staff Partner, please call or email Abby Struffert at 907-252-1772 or [Abby.Struffert@cancer.org](mailto:Abby.Struffert@cancer.org).

Also, please visit the links below for supportive resources:

- Materials to educate parents: [cancer.org/hpv](http://cancer.org/hpv)
- Information for health care providers: <https://www.cancer.org/health-care-professionals/hpv-vaccination-information-for-health-professionals.html>

## Childhood vaccines given to adults

The Alaska Immunization Program, through data in VacTrAK, has identified some providers are administering vaccines specifically funded for children (i.e., PCV13) to their adult

patients. Administering vaccines funded through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program to persons age 19 years and older is not permissible under federal law.

Providers are responsible for monitoring administration data on a routine basis and ensuring staff are trained on which state-supplied inventory may be used for adults. The "Vaccine Administered" report in VacTrAK identifies if vaccines funded for childhood use were administered to adults in your practice/clinic. [2018 Vaccine Eligibility for Adults](#) lists the select state-supplied vaccines that may be administered to eligible adults. If inappropriate administration is found, use VacTrAK's "Patient Detail Report" or your EHR to identify staff in need of further education.

## Minimize Vaccine Wastage

The CDC contract offers the option of single dose vaccine orders for tetanus diphtheria (Td), pneumococcal polysaccharide (PSV23), and serogroup B meningococcal (MenB OMV). Ordering these vaccines in single dose quantities allows a practice to offer access while reducing vaccine waste. Vaccine stock should reflect current and historical trends in administration. The vaccines available in single dose quantity are reflected on the order screen as "1 PK 1 Dose Vials/Syringes."

## Resources & Training

You can order immunization materials and resources using a [new order form](#). This form will be updated periodically as new materials become available, so save the web link!

CDC's MMWR and Medscape offer a number of free continuing education activities, including ACIP recommendations on Tdap, vaccines for adults, and other relevant topics. To access this FREE MMWR / Medscape CE activity visit [https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/cme/medscape\\_cme.html](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/cme/medscape_cme.html).

The Pink Book Webinar Series is ongoing through September, check out the schedule and continuing education information [here](#).

Alaska Department of Health & Social Services  
Division of Public Health  
**Immunization Program**  
3601 C Street, Suite 540  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
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