



# Alaska Immunization Program

## Welcome

The Alaska Immunization Program welcomes three new staff members:

- Pollyanna Stewart is our new Deputy Program Manager/Nurse Consultant.
- Della Fisher returned to the Immunization Program, joining our VFC team.
- Tina Johnson is our new administrative assistant.

Say "Hi" when you call our Helpline!

## Dear Izzy

Dear Izzy,

Is it true that there is more than one Meningococcal vaccine that teenagers should receive? –MC

MC,

Yes, there are two different Meningococcal vaccines for teens that should be discussed with your doctor to assess need for vaccination. The one that most parents know about is called MCV4 that covers Serogroup's A, C, W and Y. The MCV4 vaccine is a two dose series that is recommended at age 11-12 and 16 years of age. The second Meningococcal vaccine "MenB" covers Serogroup B and is recommended for ages 16-23. The MenB vaccine is either a 2-dose or 3-dose series depending on the brand of vaccine that is used. For more information on MenB please read the Epi bulletin on the vaccine that can be found at <http://epibulletins.dhss.alaska.gov/Document/Display?DocumentId=1987> or contact the Alaska Immunization Program at (907) 269-8088.

Dear Izzy,

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## AVAP Eligibility

Adults who are covered exclusively by Medicare or Medicaid are NOT eligible for AVAP/State Vaccine. Some vaccines have age restrictions, including Shingrix, which is only available from the State for ages 50 through 64. Review all

I have a lot of patients that would like more information on vaccines; do you have information we can distribute? –PG

PG,

Yes, the Alaska Immunization Program provides educational materials for providers free of charge. We have an order form on the website for materials; you can find it at [http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/iz/Documents/vaxpacket/forms/Immunization\\_Order\\_Form.pdf](http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/iz/Documents/vaxpacket/forms/Immunization_Order_Form.pdf). The form can be emailed or fax to the account number on the bottom of the form. If you have any concerns or additional questions please contact the Alaska Immunization Program at [immune@alaska.gov](mailto:immune@alaska.gov) or (907) 269-8088.

## Pink Book Updates

Did you know that you can get updates for CDC's *Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (The Pink Book)*? To help your clinic stay current with ACIP (Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices) recommendations sign up here: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/index.html>.

## VacTrAK's Add/Modify Users Form

To assist us in the timely processing of changes to VacTrAK users and their permissions, clinic staff are reminded that required information must be accurate. Staff must ensure that the VacTrAK administrator information is current when the [modify users form](#) is submitted.

## State-supplied Vaccine Updates

- Out of stock for the 2018-19 influenza season and no longer available to order
  - Sanofi Fluzone High Dose syringes for ages 65 yr+
  - GSK Fluarix syringes for ages 6 mo+
- Still available to order for the 2018-19 influenza season
  - Sanofi Fluzone multi-dose vials for ages 6 mo+
  - Sanofi Fluzone syringes for ages 6-35 mo
- Grifols Td Vaccine is now called TDVAX (but the NDC and CVX codes remain the same)
- GSK Bexsero 1pk is no longer offered on the CDC federal contract. Providers may continue to order the 1pk as long as it appears on the VacTrAK order set. Once the product is out of stock, it will be restricted from the order set and no longer available to order

Adult Eligibility guidelines [here](#).

### Shipping Boxes

Please remember to dispose or reuse styrofoam boxes used to ship vaccines.

### National Nurses Week May 6-12

Celebrate the nursing profession and recognize the contributions and positive impact of American's 4 million registered nurses. Thank you, nurses! *Special kudos to immunization nurses!*

- Merck Pneumovax *vials* are no longer offered on the CDC federal contract. Providers may continue to order the vials as long as it appears on the VacTrAK order set. Starting in May, providers will order Pneumovax *syringes* instead

## Adult Hep A for Homeless Population

In order to help prevent hepatitis A virus outbreaks among persons using drugs or experiencing homelessness, the Alaska Immunization Program is temporarily offering a dult Hep A vaccine for this high-risk population. See the recent [ACIP recommendation](#). If a provider enrolled to receive state-supplied vaccine is interested in administering a dult Hep A vaccine to this high-risk population, please contact the Alaska Immunization Program at 269-8088.

## Influenza Vaccine Returns

Process a [return](#) for all spoiled and expired influenza vaccines - as you would for any other state-supplied vaccine - and mail them to the Alaska Immunization Program at the address below. Do not dispose of influenza vaccine at your facility and/or before the expiration date.

## Multi-dose Vials

Sanofi Fluzone and Sanofi IPOL opened multi-dose vials are NOT to be disposed of per the [28 day rule](#). As long as the vaccines are stored and handled appropriately and not contaminated or compromised in some way, opened (punctured) multi-dose vaccine vials can be used until the manufacturer's expiration date.

## HPV Education

### "The 'Shoestring Budget' Plan for Doing HPV Vaccination Quality Improvement in Primary Care Offices"

Presented by: Sharon Humiston, MD, MPH, FAAP and Rebecca Perkins, MD, MSc, FACOG

April 30 3:00-4:00 pm ET

***Continuing education credits for nurses pending!*** Focusing on the highlights of quality improvement for primary care offices. Learn how your team can craft an aim statement and a set of measurements to propel you toward success. We'll show how you can generate change ideas and utilize your office data to be even better! **Register now!**

**"Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine Safety"**

Self-Study. Presented by: Julianne Gee, MPH, Immunization Safety Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

***Credits available:***

- ***1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ hour for physicians***
- ***1 ANCC contact hour for nurses***
- ***1 ACPE contact hour for pharmacists***

After completion, participants will have a better understanding of the background of HPV vaccine, vaccine safety systems and findings, cite effective communication messages on HPV vaccine safety, provide care and counsel for patients and families. **Take the course!**

## **Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention**

The Alaska Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program's goal is to prevent perinatally acquired infections. Hepatitis B virus infection is a reportable condition under state regulations. Providers please complete and send in the [Prenatal Report Form](#) for identified HBsAg-positive pregnant women. For questions please contact the Alaska Immunization Program at (907) 269-8088.

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