



Alaska Immunization Program

August is National Immunization Awareness Month

To celebrate National Immunization Awareness Month, we will share information on DHSS's Facebook page and radio PSAs. If you want to share any information at your clinic or learn more, check out the CDC [NIAM toolkit](#).

Hot Topic: Back to School Time

Students are preparing for the upcoming school year. One item they will need is current immunization related documentation. Vaccine records are available through the student's medical provider.

Some will also need to receive vaccines. This is a great opportunity for children to be brought up to date not only on the vaccines required for school or child care attendance, but also for others that are medically recommended. For example, when adolescents are seen for a sport's physical or for a Tdap booster, review their histories for the entire [adolescent vaccine triad](#).

Top Stories

Flu Season Approaching

The 2017-2018 influenza season is approaching! The Immunization Program will send out an email once the influenza vaccine is available to order. Providers will not submit a pre-book vaccine order for the upcoming season but will place orders in VacTrAK as needed throughout the 2017-2018 influenza season. McKesson will ship the influenza vaccine to your facility along with any other vaccines ordered.

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Immunization Helpline FAQ

If a child has Medicaid, are they eligible for state vaccine? Children who have Medicaid, or are Medicaid eligible, receive vaccine through the "VFC Medicaid Eligible" category of state vaccine.

Eligibility questions are a popular topic on the Immunization Helpline. Please review [child eligibility](#) and [adult eligibility](#) to ensure

Hepatitis B Prevention

With the recent World Hepatitis Day (7/28) and the Indigenous Conference on Viral Hepatitis (8/8-9), it is an appropriate time for a reminder that Hepatitis B can lead to liver cirrhosis, liver failure and liver cancer. To help stop the spread of hepatitis B virus, clinicians are encouraged to identify pregnant women when ordering HBsAg tests by providing ICD-10 diagnosis codes indicating pregnancy. Hepatitis is a reportable condition; providers, please complete and return the [PHBPP Report form](#).

ACIP recommends all pregnant women be tested for HBV infection and infants be given HBV vaccine and HBIG at birth. The hepatitis B vaccine is one of the state-supplied pediatric vaccines provided as part of the VFC program. Please review the ACOG-endorsed [Screening and Referral Algorithm](#) for Hepatitis B Virus Infection among Pregnant Women.

correct documentation. Remember, dose level accountability is required for continued program funding and helps with accurate assessments of our vaccine coverage at the local and state level! Your help is crucial in this important task. We are always happy to answer additional questions, 907-269-8088 or immune@alaska.gov

VacTrAK Accountability Features

When placing an order in VacTrAK, you may notice accountability items. If any of these items are past due, vaccine orders will be held until the issue is resolved.

- Dose Accountability: Adults 19 and older are selected as VFC eligible in VacTrAK and must be corrected
- Shipment LogTag: Transport LogTags included in shipped and picked up orders are not returned
- Training (Certifying Provider, Vaccine Coordinator Annual, Back-up Vaccine Coordinator Annual): Annual training is due or when office staff changes
- VFC Site Visit Follow-up: Any compliance and/or storage & handling visits require follow-up
- AFIX Participation: Non-compliance with AFIX (i.e., not responding to scheduling or AFIX follow-up)
- VFC-Other: Contact with provider is needed for any accountability not listed

Vaccine Depot Transition

The Vaccine Depot will be transitioning to McKesson for the shipment of all vaccines. For a general overview, please visit [slides](#) from a recent webinar. For instructions on vaccine ordering during the transition, consult the [program website](#).



The AVAP Council will meet September 21. For meeting information and general information about AVAP, please visit www.akvaccine.org. The [2016-2017 Annual Report](#) is now available online.

Multi-Agency Immunization Mtg

The recording of the third quarter multi-agency immunization meeting held on July 26 is available [here](#). Topics included an update on the Vaccine Depot transition, National Immunization Awareness Month, and federal budget projections.

Temperature Logs Update

Handwritten temperature logs were updated in March. The new forms are available for [refrigerators](#) and [freezers](#).

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