

# Vermont Immunization Bulletin

April 2019

## Program Updates

### Vaccination Policy Change at Health Department District Offices

*Effective July 1, 2019.* Children and adults who receive care from a provider eligible to enroll in the VFC and/or VFA programs *will not* be permitted to receive immunizations at a Health Department District Office

Free vaccinations will continue to be provided by the District Offices to those younger than age 65 who are:

- uninsured
- a patient of a solo primary care provider lacking a staff member to fulfill the required role of a back-up vaccine contact
- a patient of a practice where the “provider-in-charge” does not have prescribing authority

*For more enrollment criteria and details, please visit the Immunization Program Website:*

<http://www.healthvermont.gov/disease-control/immunization-providers> .

## State Activities

### Hepatitis A Clinic in White River Junction

Outbreaks of hepatitis A are occurring in multiple other states, including New Hampshire. People experiencing homelessness or unstable housing and people using recreational drugs are at risk of getting the virus. In February 2019, the CDC recommended that everyone aged 1 year and older experiencing homelessness be routinely immunized against hepatitis A.

The White River Junction District Health Office recently partnered with the Upper Valley Haven to offer a hepatitis vaccination clinic for the Haven’s clients, guests, volunteers, and staff. Additional clinics at other shelter settings will be provided as requested.

- Read the HAN update from the CDC <https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00418.asp> (March 25, 2019)

### 25th Anniversary of National Infant Immunization Week

*April 27 - May 4, 2019*

National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) is an annual observance to highlight the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases and to celebrate the achievements of immunization programs and their partners.

- Resources for NIIW including logos, a media relations toolkit, and key messages can be found on the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/events/niiw/index.html>

## Schedules and Recommendations

### 2019 ACIP Recommended Immunization Schedules

Summaries of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) changes to immunization schedules are available.

- For children and adolescents aged 18 and younger, <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/wr/mm6805a4.htm>
- For adults aged 19 years or older, <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/wr/mm6805a5.htm>
- Laminated copies of both schedules are available for purchase from the Immunization Action Coalition, <http://www.immunize.org/shop/laminated-schedules.asp>

### Catch-up Pediatric Immunization Schedules

CDC provides catch-up schedules for children whose vaccinations have been delayed. A vaccine series does not need to be restarted, regardless of the time that has elapsed between doses.

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/imz/catchup.html>

## Research and Resources

### Researching HPV Vaccine Effectiveness

Now that the HPV vaccine has been available for more than a decade, researchers are shifting their focus to the vaccine's effectiveness. From Pediatrics Vol. 143 Issue 2 (February 2019), these two articles add to the growing body of literature:

- Three Important Findings From a Study on HPV "Real World" Effectiveness <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/imz/catchup.html>
- HPV Effectiveness and Herd Protection in Young Women <https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/143/2/e20181902>

### The Link Between HPV and Oropharyngeal Cancer

Oropharyngeal cancer is the most common cancer caused by HPV, and awareness of this link is still low. In this archived webinar from February 2019, two experts explain the burden of oropharyngeal cancer and the importance of vaccination to prevent HPV infections.

[http://www.phf.org/resourcestools/Pages/CDC\\_Webinar\\_Perspectives\\_on\\_Oropharyngeal\\_Cancer.aspx](http://www.phf.org/resourcestools/Pages/CDC_Webinar_Perspectives_on_Oropharyngeal_Cancer.aspx)

### *Op-Ed: The World's Many Measles Conspiracies Are All the Same*

"Public health leaders and pediatricians are hard-pressed to counter anti-vaccination messaging that is tied to larger political, religious, and cultural divisions and suspicions." Laurie Garrett explores how a lack of social trust across the globe is leading to a surge in measles outbreaks.

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/03/06/the-worlds-many-measles-conspiracies-are-all-the-same/>

### *Quiz: How much do you know about immunization and vaccine-preventable diseases?*

Does polio still exist? Is measles caused by a virus or bacteria? How many children are still at risk of pertussis worldwide? Test your knowledge in this interactive [quiz](#) from the World Health Organization:

<http://apps.who.int/worldimmunizationweek/>