

State of Vermont
Department of Health
Immunizations
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Agency of Human Services

April 1, 2019

District Health Office – Vaccination Policy Change

Public health services are most effective when used to address high-risk populations and the uninsured.

Effective July 1, Health Department Health District Offices will no longer offer free vaccination to insured children and adults who receive primary care from a practice eligible to enroll in the Vaccines for Children and/or Vaccines for Adults programs. The Immunization Program provides vaccines at no cost to practices through federal and Vermont Vaccine Purchasing Program funding.

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 fulfil the required role of a back-up vaccine contact
- a patient of a practice where the “provider-in-charge” does not have prescribing authority

District Offices will continue to hold monthly vaccination clinics for those who are eligible.

In addition, Districts will be asked to offer hepatitis A vaccine clinics in community settings where individuals with the highest risk for hepatitis A may reside. This goal is to prevent a hepatitis outbreak as seen in over 16 states since 2016.

While this policy change will only affect a small percentage of primary care practices, a three-month notice is being provided to allow practices that aren’t offering all recommended vaccines to take appropriate actions to ensure their patients can be vaccinated. If you have any questions, please e-mail AHS.VDHIimmunizationprogram@vermont.gov. If you would prefer to speak by phone, please include a phone number in your e-mail.

Sincerely,

Chris

Christine Finley, APRN, MPH
Immunization Program Manager
Vermont Department of Health

