



CVP Update



National Immunization Observances

Adolescent Immunization Action Week

Join in to ensure adolescents are up-to-date on vaccines during Adolescent Immunization Action Week!

April 1–5 is the third annual Adolescent Immunization Action Week (#AIAW24). Join us and Unity® Consortium to focus on ensuring adolescents are up-to-date on recommended vaccines.

Parents cite their adolescent’s healthcare provider as the most trusted and influential source for their vaccination decisions. Parents depend on their healthcare providers to acknowledge and answer their questions, recommend needed vaccines, and help keep their adolescents healthy.

AIAW urges you to act to keep adolescents current on well visits and immunizations. Visit Unity’s [AIAW24 Partner Toolkit](#) (password: unity) for social media-ready messages and visuals and other materials to help you draw attention to adolescent immunization. Here are suggested actions for AIAW to remind, recall, and schedule immunizations:

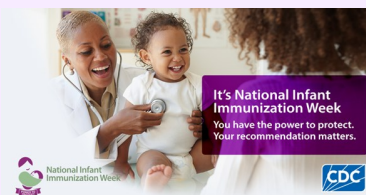
- Contact families who have missed adolescent well visits or immunizations
- Check vaccination status during all adolescent visits to avoid missed opportunities
- Deliver confident, concise, and consistent vaccine recommendations
- Make scheduling vaccine appointments convenient (e.g., clinics during school vacations)
- Co-administer recommended vaccines to avoid having families schedule multiple visits
- Share #AIAW24 and spread the word with health departments, organizations and/or schools

Together we can boost immunization rates and help protect our adolescents from vaccine-preventable illnesses.

View a list of local AIAW activities hosted by Immunization Action Plan (IAP) programs throughout the state on [our webpage](#).

National Infant Immunization Week

[National Infant Immunization Week \(NIIW\)](#) is a yearly observance held in April, highlighting the importance of protecting children ages two years and younger from vaccine-preventable diseases (VPDs). This year, **NIIW is April 22–29th**! The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommend that children stay on track with their well-child appointments and routine vaccinations. On-time vaccination is critical to provide protection against potentially life-threatening diseases.



All staff in healthcare practices, including non-clinical staff, play important roles during NIIW. To highlight childhood immunizations this NIIW, learn [tips for talking with parents](#) about childhood vaccines.

For more [actionable strategies, resources, and data](#) to support getting all Americans back on-schedule with their routine immunizations to protect everyone from vaccine-preventable disease and disability.

Local NIIW events will be posted on [our webpage](#) in the events section at the bottom of the page in the coming weeks!

In this Issue:

National Immunization Observances	P.1
CT WiZ Notice to Patients	P.1
Data Quality Corner	P.2
Vaccine Preventable Diseases	P.2
Employee Spotlight	P.3
Provider Spotlight	P.3

Follow us on Social Media!

- Facebook:** [@CTPublicHealth](#)
- X (Twitter):** [@CTDPH](#)
- Instagram:** [@ctdph](#)

Contact Us: **860-509-7929** or click [here](#)

For a current list of IAP Contacts

[Immunization Action Plan \(IAP\)](#)

CT WiZ Notice to Patients

The CT WiZ Notice to Patients has been updated and translated into 10 additional languages! This new version includes a QR code linking to the CT WiZ Public Portal for easy access to immunization records.

Providers can [access the notice](#) from our onboarding website to download/print the notice in the language(s) you need. All providers must post or provide this notice so their patients know they are automatically enrolled and that their office is reporting to CT WiZ.

The public can also find this notice on our website on our All About CT WiZ webpage FAQs: [How are people notified that they are automatically included in CT WiZ?](#)

Data Quality Corner

Office
Hours

Join us: Reminder/Recall **Office Hours** are being held monthly.

- Next Office hours: Tuesday April 9 from 12PM–1PM through this **TEAMS [link](#)**.
- Immunization Program staff will be available to provide technical assistance on accessing your reminder/recall reports, details on the criteria used to run the reports, guidance on how to utilize the report for activities such as patient outreach and roster management and answer any questions you may have.
- Check out your instructional monthly reminder/recall emails for the office hours dates each month!



Reminder: The Department of Public Health (DPH) monitors CT WiZ access.

- Usernames are automatically deactivated if the user has not logged in for a period of time, and DPH manually deactivates users as needed.
- If you need username support, please visit: [CT WiZ Username Password Issues for Existing Accounts](#)
- You may reset your password, request help, request new user accounts, etc. Learn more here: [How can I update my role, clinic information and user account in CT WiZ?](#)
 - **CT Vaccine Program (CVP)/CT Vaccine for Adults Clinics:** 'Clinic Tools' must be updated by the Primary/Backup Vaccine Coordinator **before** a new user account is requested. If a staff leaves, when you update Clinic Tools it will notify DPH to inactivate their username.



Update: The CT WiZ Inventory module has been updated. See the training slides: [Place a CVP vaccine order](#). The submit button is now on the Vaccine Orders page making it easier for you to submit orders to the CVP.

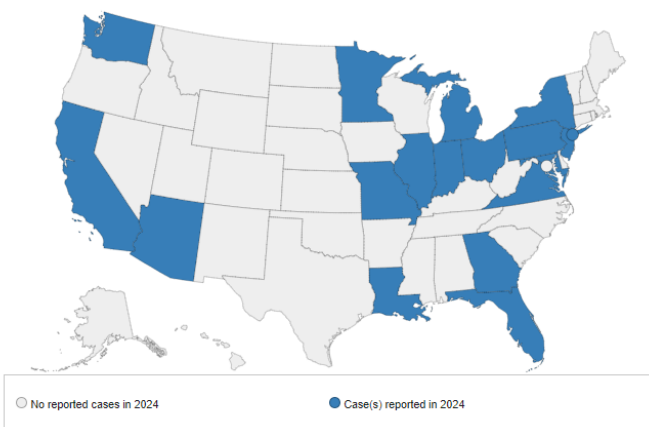
Update: Restitution is no longer required for COVID-19 vaccines that have expired. Please review the March 5, 2024 communication from DPH: [Update-on-COVID-19-Vaccine-Restitution-3-5-24](#).

Vaccine Preventable Diseases

Cases of measles continue to rise in the United States with 97 cases reported as of March 28, 2024. This is in comparison to a total of 58 cases for the entirety of 2023. Providers should make sure their patients are up-to-date with measles vaccine and consider a measles diagnosis in individuals who meet the clinical criteria. More information is available on our [measles](#) information page. Additionally, we have created a [measles testing job aid](#) with information on the correct sample collection procedures for measles diagnostic testing. This is available as a link on that measles information page.

Jurisdictions Reporting Cases in 2024

As of March 28, 2024



CDC and the American Medical Association (AMA) hosted a fireside chat on Thursday March 28, 2024, to discuss trends in measles epidemiology, recognition of measles, travel-associated risks, core healthcare infection prevention measures, and the importance of vaccination. Those who are interested can view the recording on-demand here: [Be on Alert for Travel-Related Measles: | Infectious Diseases | CDC's Project Firstline | AMA Ed Hub](#)

Employee Spotlight

Laura LeBlanc, Health Program Associate



Laura has been a Health Program Associate with the Immunization Program since January of 2022. Holding a Bachelor of Science in Business from Central Connecticut State University and a Master of Public Health from the University of Connecticut, she brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to her role as the program's Grant Administrator. Laura oversees various critical tasks essential to grant administration. These include ensuring that grant applications and awards adhere to all requirements, managing timely and accurate report submissions, and effectively handling fund allocation per planned strategies. She also coordinates with granting and grantee agency systems to streamline the award process. With over 15 years of experience in the field, Laura is deeply passionate about her work. In her (very limited) free time, due to a 5- and 7-year-old, she enjoys spending time with family, reading, walking and being in nature.

Provider Spotlight

Pediatric Associates of Western Connecticut

Pediatric Associates of Western Connecticut have adolescent vaccination covered!



Recently, the clinicians in this practice completed a huge push to increase human papillomavirus (HPV) and meningococcal vaccination rates in their adolescent patient population. Dr. Jamie Alon and primary vaccine coordinator, Jamie Lyman, led the charge in participating in a Norwalk Health Department vaccine campaign, *Win/Win/Win with the Big 3*. Pediatric Associates of Western Connecticut was able to utilize electronic health record reporting capabilities and maximize their outreach efforts as part of this initiative. Their staff soon realized that simply being aware of who was due or overdue for vaccine was key to successful outreach to families or counseling during appointments. Their coverage reports highlighted any gaps in vaccine records that they then addressed with an all-hands-on deck approach.

Building on the model of flu-only clinics that were offered during influenza season to increase vaccine uptake, their staff applied this same method to offer a focus on HPV and meningococcal vaccines for adolescent patients, which was well received by patients and parents! Nurse Kerri Masesa mentioned that ample vaccine counseling time was also key in administering more HPV vaccines because it allowed providers to have in-depth conversations around HPV-vaccination, which is not required for school entry in Connecticut. Emphasizing the importance of preparation and tone, Kerri mentioned the language providers use to explain the potential outcomes for unvaccinated individuals and the informative tone of vaccine counseling is what made their efforts successful, for both HPV and meningococcal vaccinations.

Through this quality improvement initiative, their staff were not only able to increase rates of vaccination in their adolescent patients and prevent disease, but also found their work that much more enjoyable and fun. Coming together for a streamlined vaccine push, they found having a unified message and positive tone around vaccination was beneficial for their patients and vaccine workflow, producing great results within their practice.