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Please find attached the CVP update for August 2024.

3 pages total

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CVP Update



National Immunization Awareness Month

August is [National Immunization Awareness Month](#) (NIAM)! NIAM is an annual observance that highlights the importance of routine vaccination for people of all ages. NIAM serves as an important reminder to catch up on routine visits and vaccinations.

All staff in healthcare practices, including non-clinical staff, play important roles to ensure on-time vaccination for your

patients. During NIAM, the DPH Immunization Program encourages providers to take the time to use the resources below to help you discuss vaccinations with your patients and parents during NIAM and throughout the year.

- Engage in learning opportunities with the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention’s (CDC) [Immunization Education and Training](#) courses.
- Make your practice a supportive space that welcomes [vaccine questions and concerns](#) from patients and parents.
- Use [proven strategies](#) to encourage parents and patients to stay up to date on vaccinations.
- Make [immunization schedules](#) easy for parents and patients to find by displaying them [on your website](#).
- Use tools like [PneumoRecs VaxAdvisor Mobile App](#) to help you make vaccine recommendations.
- Share clear and accurate information about the latest vaccine recommendations, including [COVID-19 vaccines](#), [Flu vaccines](#) and [RSV vaccines](#).

Check out the [National Immunization Awareness Month local events](#) planned by our Immunization Action Plan (IAP) contractors throughout the state!



National Immunization Awareness Month

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Adolescent Reminder/Recall Pilot Project

A group of CVP clinics were selected for a **reminder/recall pilot for the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine**. Clinics that were selected for this pilot project have a large adolescent patient population. If your clinic was selected, you received an email on July 18th to notify you and provide instructions to view your reminder/recall report in CT WiZ.

The purpose of this pilot is to determine the feasibility, acceptability, and effectiveness of DPH-generated reminder/recall reports and messages at getting patients who have initiated the HPV vaccine series up to date.

If you have questions about reminder/recall reports, please join us for our monthly office hours. Office hours are Tuesday August 6 from 12PM-1PM through this TEAMS [link](#).



Data Quality Corner

All state supplied flu vaccine has now expired. Please make sure all unused doses are marked as returned in CT WiZ and sent back to McKesson. For more information on how to complete a return in CT WiZ, click [here](#).

Reminder: Updating Data Code Sets in your EHRs

Subscribe to receive email updates from the [IIS Data Code Sets | CDC webpage](#). This enables you to keep your electronic health record (EHR) system updated (as new vaccine codes are added) and to ensure accurate reporting to CT WiZ. Remember to view the current list of the [Vaccines Supplied by Connecticut Vaccine Program \(CVP\)](#). Please see the [NEW Preview of the Trivalent Influenza Vaccine Codes for 2024/2025 Season](#).



Call to Action: Strengthening Kindergarten Vaccination Coverage

CDC data show that [vaccination coverage among kindergarteners](#) has declined to its lowest level in decades and an estimated 750,000 young learners entered kindergarten during the COVID-19 pandemic who were not up to date on their school vaccinations. Recent upticks in [global and domestic measles cases and outbreaks](#) underscore that under- and unvaccinated children are at risk for serious illness. Routine immunization catch-up is a goal we can achieve by working together. CDC calls upon [health care providers](#), [education professionals](#), and [trusted community messengers](#) (with materials also available in [Spanish](#)) to help keep kids healthy, in school, and ready to learn.

What Can You Do?

- Raise awareness about declines in kindergarten [vaccination coverage](#) and the benefits of getting school vaccination coverage back on track as part of an [infection prevention strategy](#).
- Check out and use CDC's resources found on the [Let's RISE Initiative webpage](#).

Getting routine immunizations back on track is a goal we can achieve by working together. Thank you for your ongoing partnership in this work to keeping young children healthy and safe.



Reminder: With the back-to-school rush on the horizon, don't forget to promote the [CT WiZ Public Portal](#) to your patients. The Public Portal can save your office time by enabling patients the ability to access their own or their child's immunization record securely online.



Employee Spotlight

Jazmin Diaz, Epidemiologist 1

Jazmin Diaz joined the Connecticut DPH Immunization Program as an Epidemiologist for the Assessment Unit team, where she conducts quality improvement visits to vaccinating providers. As a lover of nature and the arts, you might find her on a hiking trail or taking an art class. She also enjoys baking and befriending neighborhood cats. She is looking forward to the upcoming DPH Baking Contest and hopes to share another creation.



Provider Spotlight

The Pediatric Center of Stamford

The Pediatric Center of Stamford, part of Stamford Health Medical Group, has 6 physicians and 11 nurses who care for patients aged 0–21 years. The staff have decades of experience and clinical expertise, and they work together to deliver compassionate care. At The Pediatric Center of Stamford, each child and adolescent receive individualized care for their unique needs.

“When you’re looking for a pediatrician, you want someone who’s easy to talk to, focused and committed to every aspect of your child’s well-being through all life’s stages,” said Sanford Swidler, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Columbia University and pediatrician at The Pediatric Center of Stamford. “We’re a designated Patient-Centered Medical Home, a personal model of healthcare that leads to better outcomes.”

The Pediatric Center of Stamford provides comprehensive child and adolescent checkups, same-day sick visits, focused behavioral consultations, sports evaluations, prenatal visits, and dedicated care for all its patients. Lead Staff RN, Maria Leordean, is committed to making sure continued education for nursing staff is an ongoing priority. Maria spearheaded the clinic’s recent Immunization Quality Improvement for Providers (IQIP) cycle. This year-long process implemented various quality improvement strategies to improve on time routine vaccination. The clinic far exceeded the goals set during IQIP to boost vaccination rates.

“We firmly believe in the effectiveness and safety of vaccines,” said Maria Leordean, RN. “Vaccines are essential in protecting your child, your family and the community. All children and young adults should receive the recommended immunizations according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Academy of Pediatrics.”

