

## **CVP Update**



## **National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW)**

April 24-May 1<sup>st</sup> is National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW).

This week serves as a reminder about the importance of staying on track and ensuring infants are up to date on recommended vaccines. This year, more than ever, we recognize the critical role vaccination plays in protecting our children and communities and the nation's public health from 14 vaccine-preventable diseases. While families followed public health guidelines about going out during the COVID-19 pandemic, this has unfortunately resulted in many missed or delayed recommended vaccinations. Make sure to review your patients' records or run the CT WiZ Patient Reminder/Recall report to catch up any infants and young children who are behind on immunizations!

- Visit: <u>CT WiZ Patient Management</u> for training on running reports
- Visit: <u>National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) | CDC</u> for educational resources



### **Coronavirus and other vaccines**

Some 16-18 year olds have already received the COVID-19 vaccine and more will be able to be vaccinated when Connecticut opens up vaccinations to all 16 years and older. Remember to ask when a teen received or will receive their COVID-19 vaccine when scheduling appointments for other teen vaccines like HPV or Meningitis. COVID-19 vaccines should not be given two weeks before or after another vaccine.

Learn how to become a COVID-19 Vaccine Provider



Spring Adult Flu Workshop on May 21, 2021.

Virtual meeting from 12-2pm.



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# Helpful COVID-19 webpages:

Detailed information about the <u>Phases</u>

COVID-19 Vaccination Scheduling Options

Connecticut's Vaccine Locator Portal

CT DPH COVID-19 Vaccination FAQs

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## Help Kids Return Safely to School - Get Caught Up on Recommended Vaccines

COVID-19 disrupted both in-person learning and routine well-child visits for many children over the last year. As a result, too many children have fallen behind on receiving recommended vaccines. We all want our kids to be back in school safely and that means getting caught up on vaccines that were missed over the last year. CDC's public sector vaccine ordering data show a 14% drop in 2020-2021 compared to 2019 and measles vaccine is down by more than 20%. **Kids need to get caught up now** so that they are protected as they go back to in person learning. Catch-up vaccination will require efforts from healthcare systems, health care providers, schools, state and local governments, and families.

#### Healthcare systems and healthcare providers should:

- Identify families whose children have missed doses and contact them to schedule appointments
- Prompt clinicians when these children are seen to deliver vaccines that are due or overdue
- Let families know what precautions are in place for safe delivery of in-person services

#### **Healthcare provider organizations should:**

 Encourage members to identify and follow up with families whose children have missed doses to get appointments scheduled

#### Schools and state and local governments agencies should:

- Send reminders to families about school immunization requirements
- Follow-up with families of children who are not in compliance with requirements to encourage compliance
- Use the state's immunization information system's reminder-recall capacity to notify families whose children have fallen behind on vaccines

#### We all should:

 Communicate directly to families the importance of well-child visits and getting caught up on any recommended vaccines that were missed

Help us protect children by doing what you can to get kids caught up on recommended vaccines.

Sincerely,
Nancy Messonnier, MD
Senior Official, CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force
Director, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

ACIP Vaccination Programs Guidelines for Immunization | Recommendations | CDC

#### Share information about the CVP program!

Newly unemployed parents may not know that their children may be eligible for the federal <u>Vaccines for Children program</u> and <u>CVP - Information for Parents (ct.gov)</u>.

Routine vaccines are covered by insurance companies under the Affordable Care Act.

## Kids Who Got Flu Shot Had Milder COVID Symptom

#### **By Robert Preidt**

MONDAY, Feb. 8, 2021 (HealthDay News)

A new study showed that it (Flu shot) reduces kids' risk for symptoms and severe illness if they get COVID-19.

That conclusion is drawn from medical records of more than 900 children diagnosed with COVID-19 between February and August of last year. Those who had their current flu shot were less likely to have COVID-19 symptoms, respiratory problems or severe illness, University of Missouri researchers said.

Kids who received the pneumococcal <u>vaccine</u> were also less likely to have COVID-19 symptoms, according to findings recently published in the journal *Cureus*.

The findings are important because there is not yet an approved coronavirus vaccine for kids.

"It is known that the growth of one virus can be inhibited by a previous <u>viral infection</u>," said study author Dr. Anjali Patwardhan, professor of pediatric rheumatology and child health at Missouri School of Medicine in Columbia. "This phenomenon is called virus interference, and it can occur even when the first

virus invader is an inactivated virus, such as the case with the <u>flu vaccine</u>," she said in a university news release. Patwardhan said studying children is important, because they play a big role in viral spread. "Understanding the relationship and co-existence of other viruses alongside COVID-19 and knowing the vaccination status of the pediatric patient may help in deploying the right strategies to get the best outcomes."

Patwardhan added that it's important now to investigate the link between <u>vaccinations</u> and COVID-19 symptoms in a larger geographical area with a multiracial makeup.

"Based on these findings, we hypothesize that the higher incidence of COVID-19 in minority populations may also reflect their low vaccination rate apart from other health inequalities," Patwardhan said.





- Reconciliations for CVP must be done monthly.
  - If your clinic is live on CT WiZ, refer to our <u>training page</u> for step-by-step directions on the reconciliation process.
    - Direct Data Entry Reconciliation <u>training slides</u>
    - HL7 Reconciliation training slides
- Provider staff should continue to rotate vaccine supply and be mindful of expiration dates. If you will not be able to use a vaccine, you should transfer the vaccine out as soon as possible.
- Begin the process of onboarding your clinic's Electronic Health Record (EHR) to <u>report doses</u> to CT WiZ, if you
  have not already done so.
- CDC has issued new Childhood and Adult Immunization Schedules.
- Busy but still need to get your CE credits? <u>CDC has classes</u>.

