

# CVP Update



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## National Infant Immunization Week

**IMMUNIZATION.  
POWER TO PROTECT.**

National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) is just around the corner. From April 27 – May 4, 2019, communities across the United States will highlight the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases and celebrate the achievements of immunization programs in promoting healthy communities. Since 1994, NIIW has been a way to focus attention on the benefits of maintaining high immunization rates in the community, state, and nationally. Healthcare professionals like you are an important reason why we can celebrate high infant immunization rates in CT.

According to a national poll conducted by CDC in 2014, a doctor’s recommendation was the #1 reason that parents made sure their child got all of the recommended vaccines.

NIIW is a great opportunity for the entire practice—including physicians, nurses, and receptionists—to show parents that your practice strongly supports vaccination according to the CDC’s recommended immunization schedule. It’s also a good chance to let parents know that on-time vaccination is the norm, despite what they may hear in the media. According to CDC’s national poll, most parents (86%) said that their youngest child received all of the recommended vaccines at the time they were recommended.

This is important information for the parents who may think delaying or refusing vaccines is common practice.

## Here are some ideas for ways that your practice can celebrate NIIW this year:

- “Launch” NIIW by bringing in breakfast or lunch for your staff. Adapt the slides at [10 Ways to Create a Culture of Immunization Within Our Pediatric Practice](#). Use this opportunity to discuss ways that your entire practice can promote NIIW to parents. Decorate your waiting room with balloons, streamers, [CDC posters](#), an [NIIW banner](#), and [coloring sheets](#).
- Promote NIIW on Facebook or Twitter. CDC has [sample tweets and Facebook posts](#) you can use during NIIW and throughout the year.
- [Run an article](#) in your practice’s newsletter or on your website.
- Play [CDC videos](#) in your waiting room or link to them on your website.
- Print fact sheets on [vaccine safety](#) and [vaccine-preventable diseases](#) and display them in your waiting room or exam rooms.
- Encourage your nurses and receptionists to review any resources that you have displayed, and invite staff to share and discuss with you any vaccine safety concerns they may have.

**NIIW events, open to the public, throughout the state are posted at:**

<https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Immunizations/Immunization-Information-for-Health-Professionals>

## Ten Ways to Create a Culture of Immunization

1. Make parents aware of your immunization philosophy and policy.
2. Keep up to date on current CDC vaccine recommendations.
3. Make clinical resources readily available to staff.
4. Assess a child's immunization status at every visit.
5. Give strong recommendations for immunization.
6. Help parents feel supported by welcoming questions and knowing how to answer them.
7. Give Vaccine Information Statements (VIS) and handouts to answer specific questions.
8. Make credible immunization resources easy for parents to find. A good resource is "[Reliable Sources of Immunization Information: Where Parents Can Go to Find Answers!](#)"
9. Schedule follow-up immunization appointments before the child leaves the office.
10. Remind parents about upcoming immunization appointments and contact those who miss appointments.



## **“All Aboard! Your Ticket to CT WiZ”**

**Save the Date!**

**April 24th at 12:10pm – 1:00pm**

**Don't Miss this Webinar!**

**CT AAP Webinar Registration and a Recording available at: <http://ct-aap.org/2019>**

This webinar will describe the typical process for establishing an electronic connection between the electronic health record (EHR) and CT WiZ. DPH is onboarding providers interested in establishing an EHR HL7 interface with CT WiZ; Connecticut's new Immunization Information System (IIS). CT WiZ provides a centralized repository for immunization records and clinical decision support, while also providing tools and resources for ordering vaccines, managing inventory, and assessing clinic coverage levels.

Ultimately, providers can contribute to and access data in CT WiZ through a variety of methods: by logging into the user interface, electronic reporting to the IIS, and bi-directional query and response between the EHR and IIS. This webinar will also describe the training plan and support strategies that will be used for all users of CT WiZ, whether you have an EHR or not.

Speakers will:

- Describe the basics of the onboarding process
- Identify the types of interfaces and benefits of onboarding with CT WiZ
- Communicate roles and responsibilities of the clinic when connecting electronically with CT WiZ
- Present the CT WiZ training plan and support strategies

## Participate in the CT WiZ Electronic Health Record Survey.



An important survey was recently sent to CVP Coordinators. Don't forget to fill it out online! The survey will close on May 1, 2019.

The survey collects information about your clinic's use of or future plans to use an electronic health record (EHR). We will use this information to assess the readiness of clinics to report electronically to Connecticut's Immunization Information System, CT WiZ.

This will help to expedite the clinic onboarding process.

**Click here to access the survey:**

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CTWIZ\\_EHR\\_Survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CTWIZ_EHR_Survey)

## 2019 Immunization Schedules:

The 2019 [Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule](#) and the [Adult Immunization Schedule](#) are available on the CDC website.

The screenshot displays the CDC website's immunization schedule section. It is divided into three main areas: 'For Health Care Providers', 'For Parents & Adults', and 'Parent-Friendly'. The 'For Health Care Providers' section includes two tables: 'Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule (birth through 18 years)' and 'Adult Immunization Schedule (19 years and older)'. The 'For Parents & Adults' section features four sub-sections: 'Parent-Friendly Schedule for Infants and Children', 'Parent-Friendly Schedule for Preteens and Teens', 'What vaccines does your child need?', and 'Do you know which adult vaccines you need?'. Each sub-section includes a small image or graphic.



**Have you visited our [website](#) lately?  
We've updated it!**

*Check it out to stay up to date and see what's new!*

From Your DPH Immunization Staff