



Friday, March 14, 2025

Weekly Wrap Up

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Ensure Patients 6 Months and Older are Protected Against Measles Before Travel Abroad



Current measles outbreaks remind us that full protection against measles with Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) vaccine is essential. **Make sure your patients 6 months and older are protected against** <u>measles</u> at least 2 weeks before traveling abroad:

- Infants 6 11 months are recommended to receive <u>1 dose of MMR vaccine</u>. Then, follow the routine 2-dose MMR series starting at 12 – 15 months of age.
- Ensure all patients 12 months and older are up to date with 2 doses at least 28 days apart.

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Low or No Cost Vaccines Available

There are several options for vaccines offered at low or no cost.

The <u>California Vaccines for Children (VFC)</u> Program provides vaccines, including MMR vaccine (both routine and early infant doses prior to travel), for <u>eligible</u>

children at no cost. Find a VFC provider in your area using the locator.

Also, many local health departments offer free or low-cost vaccines.

Your local pharmacy may also give Tdap and other vaccines for a fee.

Interested in becoming a VFC provider? See <u>CDPH's enrollment resources on</u> <u>EZIZ</u>.

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Emergency Prescription Access Program (EPAP) Closing March 15

CAHAN: EPAP activated beginning January 17, 2025 in response to the Los Angeles fires will close on March 15, 2025 in California.

The Emergency Prescription Assistance Program, or EPAP, helps people in a federally identified disaster area who do not have health insurance get the prescription medicines, vaccinations, medical supplies, and equipment that they need.

Locator: EPAP Enrolled Pharmacies

EPAP Hotline: 1-855-793-7470

What should EPAP enrolled pharmacies do to help?

- 1. Confirm that EPAP has been activated in your patient's area
- 2. Assist patients with eligibility and registration
- 3. Check for a valid prescription
- 4. Ensure that the prescription and/or DME is covered under EPAP
- 5. Provide a 30-day supply of prescription drugs, medical supplies, or vaccines

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Recommend 2nd Dose of COVID-19 Vaccines for Adults 65+

Adults 65+ need 2nd dose of 2024 - 2025 COVID-19 vaccine 6 months after their 1st dose.

If your patients received their 1st dose of the 2024 – 2025 COVID-19 vaccine back in the beginning of fall (September 2024), it's time to recall them for their 2nd dose. Use this template patient portal message:

"Keep your immunity strong against COVID-19—get your 2nd dose now. You are due for the 2nd dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Call us at (XXX) XXX-XXXX to schedule your immunization visit."

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Reminder: Continue Administering RSV Immunization through March 31



Please continue recommending and administering the RSV immunization to eligible infants and toddlers until the end of March. RSV immunization is the best way to protect our youngest patients from severe illness and hospitalization.

As a reminder, providers may check the California Immunization Registry (CAIR) or ask the birthing parent to download their digital vaccine record at <u>myvaccinerecord.cdph.ca.gov</u> to verify receipt of prenatal RSV vaccine. For more information, see our <u>RSV FAQs</u> and <u>resources</u>.

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Crucial Conversations Webinar: Effective Communication Without Confrontation

Dr. Ken Hempstead, MD, FAAP, a primary care pediatrician at Kaiser Permanente (KP) Northern California, discussed common pitfalls in healthcare conversations and offered effective techniques to improve comfort, confidence, and success in these interactions.

In case you missed this Crucial Conversations webinar, <u>watch the replay of</u> <u>Effective Communication Without Confrontation here</u>.

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California Immunization Coalition (CIC) Summit: Building Trust and Strengthening Vaccine Confidence in Our Community

The **California Immunization Coalition Summit** is our state's premier event for clinicians, healthcare professionals, and public health advocates to learn about the latest information on vaccine preventable diseases and communication strategies for maintaining and improving vaccination rates in California and beyond. The Summit is an opportunity to engage with fellow professionals in the fields of public health, epidemiology, infectious disease, pharmacy, and school health programs, to receive updates and develop collaborations for the future.

CIC's 2025 Summit, *Building Trust: Strengthening Vaccine Confidence,* will showcase speakers, expert panels, workshops, and opportunities for discussion

with leading figures in immunization and healthcare advocacy throughout California. CE credit will be available for clinicians.

Date: April 29 – 30, 2025

Where: Riverside, CA

To find more information and to register, visit the <u>CIC 2025 Summit page</u>.

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Upcoming Webinars

CDPH Immunization Branch Updates for Providers Webinar (occurs every other Friday)

 <u>Register</u> for the next session: Friday, March 21, 2025, 9:00 am – 10:30 am (PT)

Schools' Webinar for VFC Enrollment

<u>Register</u> for Wednesday, April 9, 2025, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm (PT)

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Contact CDPH Immunization Branch

Immunization Provider Call Center

For program information: Email <u>providercallcenter@cdph.ca.gov</u> or call (833) 502-1245, Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm (PT).

myCAvax Help Desk

For technical issues (e.g., password resets): Email <u>myCAvax.HD@cdph.ca.gov</u> or call (833) 502-1245, Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm (PT).

System-related training materials are available via the Knowledge Center in myCAvax.

My Turn Help Desk

Onboarding: email myturnonboarding@cdph.ca.gov

Technical support for My Turn Clinic: email <u>MyTurn.Clinic.HD@cdph.ca.gov</u> or call (833) 502-1245, Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm (PT).

Job aids, Demos, and Training Opportunities

Vaccines for Children (VFC) Customer Service Center

For program information: Email <u>MyVFCVaccines@cdph.ca.gov</u> or call (877) 243-8832, Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am – 4:30 pm, Friday, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (PT).

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