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# Montana Immunization Program Newsletter

Issue Date: December 3, 2015



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**National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW)** is December 6- 12, 2015! It's not too late to get a flu shot. Last week, immunization providers were sent an email with educational videos that you can show your patients and staff, as well as additional resources specifically for providers. This week, providers will be receiving a package in the mail that contains the 2015 NIVW poster. We encourage you to hang the poster in a visible location. We appreciate your efforts and hope you will help us spread the message across the state that it's not too late to get your flu vaccine!

## **Clinical Topic- Influenza Administration Questions**

*From the Immunization Action Coalition-Ask the Experts*

***We inadvertently administered a 0.5 mL dose of FluLaval (GSK) to a 2-year-old child before realizing that the vaccine is only licensed for use in people age 3 years and older. Do we need to repeat the dose with an age-appropriate product?***

No, the dose does not need to be repeated. However, two errors actually occurred here. In addition to the age discrepancy, the child also received a 0.5 mL dose of vaccine rather than the correct dose (0.25 mL) for the child's age. Clinicians should carefully select an influenza vaccine that is licensed for the age group of the person being vaccinated. Fluzone 0.25 mL (Sanofi Pasteur) is the only inactivated influenza vaccine approved for use in children age 6 months through two years. The live attenuated nasal spray vaccine (LAIV, FluMist, AstraZeneca) is approved for use in most healthy children age 2 years and older (as well as for healthy nonpregnant adults through age 49 years).

If the child should need a second dose of influenza vaccine, an age-appropriate vaccine should be selected. The Immunization Action Coalition's educational piece "Influenza Vaccine Products for the 2015–2016 Influenza Season" (available at [www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4072.pdf](http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4072.pdf)) provides helpful information on the wide variety of influenza vaccines in use this season.

***Can LAIV be given to a child with asthma?***

No. Asthma or a wheezing episode noted in the medical record within the past 12 months is considered a contraindication to the use of LAIV for children ages 2 through 4 years. For people age 5 years and older, asthma is considered to be a precaution (not a contraindication) for the use of LAIV.

Questions? Contact Susan Reeser, Nurse Consultant, [sreeser@mt.gov](mailto:sreeser@mt.gov) or (406) 444-1805.



## VFC Corner

### Monthly VFC Hot Topics Webinars

When: Every other month, last week of the month.

[Updated Hot Topics Schedule](#)

[Archived Presentations](#)

Month	Topic
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<b>December</b>	<b>Annual VFC Re-enrollment for 2016</b>
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In this webinar, we will discuss the 2016 VFC provider re-enrollment scheduled for the turn of the calendar year. ALL VFC providers must re-enroll in the program in order to participate for the coming year. We will go over the timeline, submitting a site contract in imMTrax, and tallying your provider population numbers. This webinar contains new information relevant to all current VFC providers.

<b>Tuesday December 15th 12:00 p.m.</b>	Meeting Password: montana <a href="https://hhsmt.webex.com/hhsmt/j.php?MTID=m36c6a9cc70d2f4ab5288a98a9ec23ce2">https://hhsmt.webex.com/hhsmt/j.php?MTID=m36c6a9cc70d2f4ab5288a98a9ec23ce2</a> Audio Access code: 571 594 157
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<b>Thursday December 17th 7:00 a.m.</b>	Meeting Password: montana <a href="https://hhsmt.webex.com/hhsmt/j.php?MTID=m3681bde1b944ed55be299b0dde5d333b">https://hhsmt.webex.com/hhsmt/j.php?MTID=m3681bde1b944ed55be299b0dde5d333b</a> Audio Access code: 575 045 710
<b>Thursday December 17th 8:00 a.m.</b>	Meeting Password: montana <a href="https://hhsmt.webex.com/hhsmt/j.php?MTID=m690b3ac5f32a888b10be338e3832c8b9">https://hhsmt.webex.com/hhsmt/j.php?MTID=m690b3ac5f32a888b10be338e3832c8b9</a> Audio Access code: 574 347 723

(Archived recording will be available for viewing)

## Reminders

### **VFC Influenza Vaccine Order Update**

We have fulfilled all influenza orders for Fluzone 0.25, Fluzone 0.50 vials, Fluzone MDV, and Fluarix. We currently have additional doses of Fluzone 0.50 single-dose syringes available. If you would like additional doses shipped immediately, please e-mail Katie Grady-Selby at [kgrady@mt.gov](mailto:kgrady@mt.gov). We are still waiting on FluMist to arrive at McKesson. If you have doses that you will not be able to administer before they expire, please let Katie Grady-Selby know and she will find them a home.

### **Provider Population Numbers for VFC Annual Re-enrollment**

Just a reminder that we will ask for your Provider Population Numbers at the turn of the calendar year when you submit your new VFC Site Contract. Your “Provider Population Numbers” are an estimate for the coming year of your total pediatric immunization patients by age and VFC eligibility category, including privately insured patients. This information must be obtained from actual immunization data from the current year.

Don't be caught unprepared! Plan ahead to have this information handy when you re-enroll.

Questions? Contact Lori Hutchinson or Katie Grady-Selby at [hhsiz@mt.gov](mailto:hhsiz@mt.gov).



*Toole County Public Health Nurses, 2014*

### **Partnering to Reach Underserved Populations - BCBSMT Care Van**

Since October 2014, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana (BCBSMT) has partnered with local public health departments to provide over 50 days of immunization clinic services to communities in Montana through the use of the BCBSMT Care Van. Over 1,500 people have been served and over 3,000 vaccines have been administered in 19 counties.

The Care Van does not provide clinical care, but partners with local public health departments to provide vaccines at no or low cost. The Care Van provides a vehicle and staff to assist local public health in taking immunization clinics to underserved populations in their county. For more information or to set up a Care Van event, please contact Bryan Haines at (406) 437-6198 or [bryan\\_haines@bcbsmt.com](mailto:bryan_haines@bcbsmt.com).

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**Montana Immunization Program Presents:**  
**2016 Provider Education Webinar Series**

**Mark these dates on your calendar!**

**ACIP GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

January 20, 2016 from 12-1:30pm

Presented by Andrew Kroger, MD, MPH, Medical  
Officer, CDC/NCIRD

**TIPS TO USING 2016 IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULES AND TABLES**

March 16, 2016 from 12-1:30pm

Presented by Candice L. Robinson, MD, MPH, Communications and Education Branch,  
CDC/NCIRD

*Links for the webinars will be available in January. We are investigating the possibility of  
offering contact hours and CMEs.*

Questions? Contact the Immunization Program at (406) 444-5580.

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### **New Immunization Program Web Calendar**

The Montana Immunization Program has a new addition to our website - a Web Calendar! Beginning this month, the program will place upcoming webinars and events, including any links or access information, on the calendar. We hope keeping our events posted in the new calendar will assist our partners in accessing the information they need in a quick and convenient location.

Check it out today!

<http://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/Immunization/calendar>

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**State of Montana  
Immunization Program  
Bekki Wehner, Section Supervisor  
(406) 444-5580**

[Complete Staff Listing and Contact Information](#)

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You are receiving this email as a designated VFC Site Contact person or by election through our online newsletter sign-up.

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