

Montana Immunization Program Newsletter

Issue Date: July 1, 2015



Need Help Responding to Vaccine-Hesitant Parent?

Immunization Action Coalition (IAC) releases redesigned “Talking About Vaccines” web section for practical tips and key resources!

According to a recent study published in the journal [Pediatrics](#), virtually all providers receive requests to spread out the vaccine schedule in a typical month. In medical practices across the nation, healthcare professionals (HCP) are called upon to attest to the safety of vaccines, the importance of vaccination, and the potentially grave consequences of not vaccinating. With appreciation for the challenges facing busy HCP, IAC has redesigned its “Talking About Vaccines” web section (www.immunize.org/talking-about-vaccines) to provide HCP with background information and practical resources that will help them efficiently and easily discuss immunization with parents and patients.

Talking About Vaccines includes the following specific topics:

- Adjuvants and Ingredients
- Alternative Medicine
- Autism

- Countering Dr. Sears
- Importance of Vaccines
- MMR
- Religious Concerns
- Responding to Parents
- Thimerosal
- Too Many Vaccines?
- Vaccine Safety

The updated web section gathers a curated collection of educational print materials, videos, podcasts, blogs, journal articles, PowerPoint presentations, websites, and more, from many trusted sources such as the Immunization Action Coalition, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, American Academy of Pediatrics, Every Child By Two, Institute of Medicine, and Vaccine Education Center at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Please visit often!

Questions? Contact Susan Reeser, Nurse Consultant at sreeser@mt.gov.



VFC Corner

Monthly VFC Hot Topics Webinars

When: Every other month beginning June 2015.

We have updated the schedule for the remaining VFC Hot Topics.

[Updated Hot Topics Schedule](#)

[Archived Presentations](#)

Month Topic

June Bi-Annual Reports: Using this resource to improve your coverage rates [Archived Presentation](#)

This was a review of how to use our bi-annual reports to improve immunization coverage rates, improve imMTrax data, and assist with quality improvement projects.

July No Hot Topics

August The Revised VFC Provider Handbook and New Forms

Lori will go over changes in the revised VFC Provider Handbook and the new forms distributed in June. This is new information relevant to all VFC providers.

September No Hot Topics

October Annual Data Logger Basics Training

Required for all VFC Managers and Alternates as part of the Annual Education Requirement, which must be completed before 2016 site contracts can be approved. Attend this webinar and the avoid the rush at the end of the year.

The Month in Review

2014-2015 VFC Influenza Vaccine Has Expired

All VFC influenza expired on June 30, 2015. Please reference the e-mail sent on June 16, 2015 with the newly revised wasted and expired form. Please also remember that

multi-dose vials cannot be returned to McKesson. They should be recorded on the wasted and expired form, but disposed of per your facility policy. For the new form, [click here](#).

Meningococcal Serogroup B Vaccines in the VFC Program

There are two new targeted meningococcal B vaccines that are now available in the VFC program. Please reference the e-mail sent on June 17, 2015 with the order form attached. Only order these vaccines when you have an eligible patient. Orders will be processed immediately upon receipt. For a copy of the order form, [click here](#).

On the Horizon

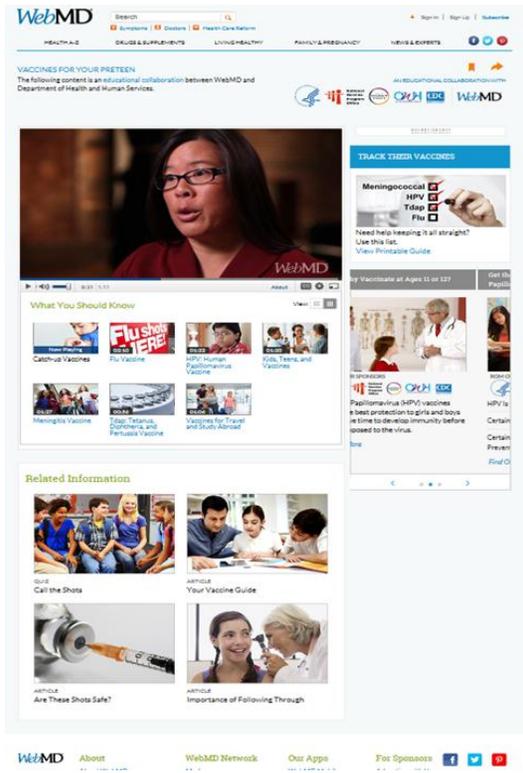
Revised VFC Provider Handbook/Vaccine Management Plan

A paper copy of the newly revised VFC Provider Handbook will be sent to all VFC Providers in early July. Upon receipt, please review with staff, destroy all old versions, and attend our August Hot Topic to discuss changes.

VFC Influenza Vaccine Orders for 2015-2016 Season

VFC influenza vaccine order forms will go out July 17th and are due back August 7th. Please be thinking about your VFC flu vaccine needs for the coming year.

Questions? Contact Lori Hutchinson and Katie Grady-Selby at hhsiz@mt.gov.



New WebMD Education Page Focuses on Preteen Vaccination

The US Department of Health and Human Services Office of Adolescent Health has teamed with WebMD to create a new webpage focusing on preteen vaccination.

The new webpage launched this week and contains a several 1-2 minutes videos, articles, quizzes and more.

[WebMD- Vaccines For Your Preteen](#)



Immunization Program Launches New School Law Update and Resource page

The Montana Immunization Program has created a new webpage to keep the public and providers up to date with the newest information on the school immunization requirement change. The page currently contains

New CDC Webinar Series for Pink Book

The webinar series will present summaries of the relevant sections of the 13th edition of “Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases” (The Pink Book). Each webinar in the series (15 total) will last approximately 1 hour and cover topics as noted in the schedule on web page.

the most recent version of the religious exemption form along with some general information about the new law. We will continue to update the page as new resources and forms become available.

[School Law Update and Resource Page](#)

Questions? Contact the Immunization Program at (406) 444-5580 or hhsiz@mt.gov.

CDC Health Information for International Travel 2016

The CDC has published the *Health Information for International Travel 2016*, also referred to as the "Yellow Book".

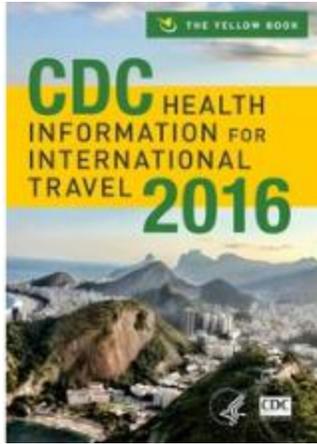
The book is available for purchase from [Oxford University Press](#). Enter promotion code 33584 at checkout for a 30% discount for CDC partners.

Continuing education will be available for each event.

For more information, including registration and webinar schedule, [click here](#).

Composition of the 2015-16 Influenza Vaccine

The Food and Drug Administration's Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee has recommended that the 2015–16 influenza trivalent vaccines used in the United States contain an A/California/7/2009 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus, an A/Switzerland/9715293/2013 (H3N2)-like virus, and a B/Phuket/3073/2013-like (B/Yamagata lineage) virus. It is recommended that quadrivalent vaccines, which have two influenza B viruses, contain the viruses recommended for the trivalent vaccines, as well as a B/Brisbane/60/2008-like (B/Victoria lineage) virus. This represents a change in the influenza A (H3) and influenza B (Yamagata lineage) components compared with the composition of the 2014–15 influenza vaccine.



These vaccine recommendations were based on several factors, including global influenza virologic and epidemiologic surveillance, genetic characterization, antigenic characterization, antiviral resistance, and the candidate vaccine viruses that are available for production.

[Influenza Activity—United States, 2014–15 Season and Composition of the 2015–16 Influenza Vaccine](#)

Summer Hands-On imMTrax Trainings

The Montana Immunization Program has organized five hands-on imMTrax trainings for the Summer of 2015: Kalispell, Havre, Bozeman, Helena, and Butte.

Visit our website for a detailed list of available times, locations, and agenda. Registration is available by clicking the hyperlinked location of the desired training.

[imMTrax Training Page](#)

Questions? Contact Michelle Funchess at (406) 444-2969 or mfuncness@mt.gov.



Each year in August, National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) provides an opportunity to highlight the value of immunization across the lifespan. Activities focus on encouraging all people to protect their health by being vaccinated against infectious diseases. Visit the [NIAM website](#) for information and resources.

Doing something special? Tell us about it!

Contact mfunchess@mt.gov or (406) 444-2969.

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