Polio
ACIP has reinstated its polio vaccine workgroup to consider additional adult inactivated poliovirus vaccine (IPV) vaccination recommendations in response to the outbreak of vaccine-derived type 2 poliovirus in New York State. Because IPV prevents paralysis but cannot prevent asymptomatic infection and transmission, the workgroup also will discuss a novel monovalent oral poliovirus vaccine (nOPV2). The nOPV2 vaccine is not licensed in the United States, but is used in other countries to interrupt virus transmission in locales with evidence of ongoing transmission. Learn more about nOPV2 here.

Are Maternal Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Vaccines Coming?
CDC surveillance has shown an increase in Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) detections and RSV-associated emergency department visits and hospitalizations in many US regions, including Illinois. There is currently no vaccine for RSV, however two manufacturers, GSK and Pfizer, are working to develop RSV vaccines that appear to be highly effective in adults (GSK 82% efficacy rate more here and Pfizer 86%). An RSV vaccine will not be available for the 2022/2023 season, but it could be available next year.

World Immunization Day 2022
November 10th is World Immunization Day. It is celebrated each year to spread awareness about the benefits of getting vaccinated and how it can prevent a plethora of diseases in the long run. Check out our website to learn more about ICAAP’s immunizations initiatives.
Vaccine Updates Corner:

1. **COVID-19 Vaccines and Immunizations Schedule Updates**

   The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC’s) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted to recommend adding COVID-19 vaccines to next year’s child, adolescent, and adult immunization schedules. What this means:

   - This addition acknowledges the ongoing need to vaccinate children, adolescents and adults against COVID-19.
   - Adding COVID-19 vaccines to immunization schedules does not result in mandates for school entry and COVID-19 vaccines are not required for school entry in Illinois at this time. Vaccine mandates are determined by states. The vaccines currently required by CPS for school entry are listed here. IDPH requirements are here.
   - If something is added to the schedule, it is because the benefits continue to strongly outweigh the risks.

   The final immunization schedules will be published in February 2023. Read more from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) here.

2. **From the AAP: Consider pediatricians, children before commercialization of COVID-19 vaccines**

   The AAP is urging federal officials to reduce the burdens of administering COVID-19 vaccines, especially as they prepare for commercial distribution. “Commercialization of COVID-19 vaccines now — when most adults have received the vaccines but most younger children have not — has the potential to leave children behind,” AAP President Moira A. Szilagyi, M.D., Ph.D., FAAP, wrote in a letter to Ashish Jha, M.D., White House COVID-19 response coordinator. ACIP voted to include COVID-19 vaccines for children ages 6 months to 18 years in the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. They will not be available in the VFC program until they transition to commercial distribution. The timing on that change has not been finalized. Read AAP news on COVID-19 vaccines being included in VFC programs here and the AAP news on considering pediatricians before commercialization here.

3. **Moderna Shelf-life Extension**

   Moderna is seeking a shelf-life extension from the FDA for lots 10 and 5 of their COVID-19 vaccines. Some lots may expire before this process is complete. Please separate vaccines and hold both Moderna lots at correct storage temperature and conditions until the process is complete and next steps are given.

   **Tips for your clinic:**

   - Separate vaccine that may expire and make do not use sign
   - Keep in proper storage i.e if frozen stay frozen
   - If stock is refrigerated, separate and mark do not use until FDA/CDC approval
   - Staff need to make it difficult for errors to occur while awaiting change to avoid errors

   Please be aware that the Moderna Expiry Lookup page will not be updated until after FDA approves the requests for extension.

4. **Novavax Booster**

   A monovalent Novavax booster dose may be used in *limited situations* in people ages 18 years and older who:

   - completed any FDA-approved or FDA-authorized monovalent primary series
   - have not received any previous booster dose(s)
   - unable to receive an mRNA vaccine (i.e., mRNA vaccine contraindicated or not available)
   - unwilling to receive an mRNA vaccine and would otherwise not receive a booster dose.

   More from the CDC announcement here.
COVID-19 Vaccinator Hero Award

ICAAP would like to recognize and celebrate the amazing pediatric teams across the state that have been doing incredible work around COVID-19 vaccine administration. This month, please join us in congratulating the staff at Pilsen Community Pediatrics for giving over 5,000 doses since January 2021!

Thank you for all your hard work!

Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine Report Cards by County

Each month ICAAP staff is sending pediatricians and family physicians local, county-level report cards that summarize COVID-19 vaccine rates for children and adolescents ages six months through 17 years old. As stated by Israel Rocha, Jr., CEO of Cook County Health, “Our health system is already seeing an uptick of serious upper respiratory infections and indicators are pointing to a severe flu season along with a potential COVID surge. After three long years of the pandemic, people are tired. I understand. But we cannot give in to complacency. We have the tools we need to lessen the illness and death caused by the flu and COVID. A simple vaccination goes a long way to prevent or reduce the severity of infection. Getting vaccinated is the single most important step to protect children and adults alike this winter.” Many other health systems throughout the state are overburdened by respiratory infections also. Learn where your county is with pediatric COVID-19 vaccinations and see what you can do to help improve rates. The report cards are posted here.

Upcoming Events

November Immunizations Webinar
November immunizations webinar: I-CARE Tips with Jen Burns. Tuesday, 11/15 from 12–1 p.m. Register here.

December Immunizations Webinar
December immunizations webinar: Vaccinations – Back to Basics with Dr. Nadia Qureshi. Tuesday, 12/20 from 12–1 p.m. Register here.

I-VAC Office Hours

I-VAC office hours offer opportunities for providers to ask any of their COVID-19 vaccine implementation questions in a casual, virtual setting. Join us for the whole hour or for as long as you need assistance!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>November 9</td>
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<td>Dr. Patrick Dolan</td>
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<td>Jennifer Burns, APN</td>
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Join Us on Zoom!
Scan the QR code or visit the following link to join our office hours session on Zoom: bit.ly/ivac-office-hours

Illinois Chapter
American Academy of Pediatrics
Dedicated to the health of all children