Where We Are with Polio Transmission and Vaccination

Significant progress has been made toward the eradication of polio, with a 99.9% global decrease in wild poliovirus (WPV) cases since 1988. Afghanistan and Pakistan are the only two countries that still see transmission of WPV type 1, which leaves the door open to transmission in other countries with un- or under-vaccinated populations. Similarly, transmission of vaccine-derived poliovirus (from the circulation of oral poliovirus vaccine strains) can occur among insufficiently vaccinated populations and was identified in the US in 2022. These trends exemplify the value of polio vaccines and the need for renewed vaccination efforts. Learn more about the impact that polio vaccination (or lack thereof) can make in an individual’s life from this survivor’s story.

RSV Vaccine for Pregnant Women

Pfizer’s RSV vaccine for pregnant women has received initial approval from the FDA’s Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC). It is expected that the FDA will determine whether to approve the vaccine over the summer. If approved, the vaccine would be administered to pregnant women between 24–38 weeks’ gestation and would protect infants up to 6 months after birth, significantly reducing the burden of the virus which causes the most infant hospitalizations in the US.
Clinical Universal Flu Vaccine

Clinical trials for a universal flu vaccine, which would protect against a wider variety of influenza strains, have started in North Carolina. The study is in very early stages, currently enrolling participants for phase 1 to test safety and immune response. The hope is that a universal flu vaccine would eliminate the current need to develop new formulations and administer a new vaccine every year.

IDPH Routine Vaccine Updates

Several routine vaccine updates were released via an IDPH SIREN on May 26, 2023. Find a summary below and review the SIREN for more information.

- As of 2/27/23, Merck's MMR, MMR-Varicella, and Varicella vaccines can be administered via intramuscular injection (IM) in addition to subcutaneous injection (SQ). This does not apply to GSK's MMR vaccine.
- HPV vaccination can start as early as age 9. To support providers in administering HPV vaccine at this age, the forecasting in I-CARE for this vaccine has been changed from 11 to 9 years of age.
- The CPT Code 90671 for Vaxneuvance for children was updated on 3/15/23.
- Many standing orders and vaccines information statements (VISs) have been updated, including for HepB and PCV.
- Please take note of these upcoming holidays, during which vaccine deliveries for providers outside of Chicago will not be available. Chicago providers should follow guidance from CDPH.
  - Juneteenth: Monday, June 19
  - Independence Day: Tuesday, July 4
  - Labor Day: Monday, September 4

Upcoming Events

Friday, June 16th, 8:30 a.m.–2 p.m.
I-VAC COVID-19 Vaccine Bootcamp.
Registration is now closed. Please email join@ilvaccinates.com as soon as possible if you are still interested in attending.

Tuesday, June 20th, 12 p.m.
Back to School, Back to Vaccine Basics Webinar
Register here

Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act

Under the PREP amendment on May 11, 2023, pharmacists can continue administering flu and COVID only vaccines to children as young as age 3. In the state of Illinois pharmacists can administer other vaccines to children down to the age of 7. Read more on state and national allowances here.
### Vaccine Summits

Join the Illinois Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics, in collaboration with the Illinois Department of Public Health, in-person!

Physicians, Physicians Assistants, Advanced Practice Nurses, Nurses, Pharmacists, Medical Assistants, Vaccine Administrators who work outside the city of Chicago, + any additional staff that support IDPH Vaccine for Children (VFC) programs are encouraged to attend.

Summits will be held 8:30am to 2:00pm. Available dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept 7th</td>
<td>Northern Illinois University</td>
<td>1425 W. Lincoln Hwy., DeKalb, IL: DeKalb County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 14th</td>
<td>University of Illinois Springfield</td>
<td>1 University Plaza Springfield, IL: Sangamon County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 21st</td>
<td>Elgin Community College</td>
<td>1700 Spartan Dr., Elgin, IL: Kane County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 29th</td>
<td>Parkland College</td>
<td>2400 W. Bradley Ave., Champaign, IL: Champaign County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 3rd</td>
<td>John A, Logan College</td>
<td>700 Logan College Dr., Carterville, IL: Marion County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 11th</td>
<td>Oakton Community College</td>
<td>1600 Golf Rd., Des Plaines, IL: Cook County</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the agenda and to register, scan here or visit illinoisaap.org/events

**FREE CME/CE**

The Illinois Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics is accredited by the Illinois State Medical Society (ISMS) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The Illinois Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics designates this live conference for a maximum of 4.00 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. Nurses and Nurse Practitioners can submit Certificates of Attendance to their accrediting board to claim credit for participation in the live conference.

Funding for this project was made possible by the Office of Disease Control, through the Illinois Department of Public Health.
Top Reasons for Parental HPV Vaccine Hesitancy

A comprehensive study analyzing responses on the National Immunization Survey-Teen between 2010 and 2020 found the most common reasons for parents not intending to vaccinate their teen against HPV. These responses included ‘not necessary,’ ‘safety concerns,’ ‘lack of recommendation,’ ‘lack of knowledge,’ and ‘not sexually active.’

Although parental HPV vaccine hesitancy was steadily declining, it began plateauing in 2012 and continued this trend through the study window of 2020. However, each year between 2010 and 2018, parents showing concerns over safety or side effects has increased significantly. On the other hand, parents citing lack of recommendation, lack of knowledge, or lack of sexual activity as reasons to avoid vaccinating their child against HPV started to slowly decrease. Knowing why families are choosing not to vaccinate against HPV can be a very important step in educating and combating vaccine hesitancy.

COVID-19 Vaccine Updates Corner:

1. Being Up-to-Date with COVID-19 Vaccines Matters
   A meta-analysis of COVID-19 vaccine studies suggests that vaccine effectiveness against an Omicron COVID-19 infection quickly declines within a year of vaccination. The review showed that vaccine effectiveness against Omicron infection and symptomatic disease was under 20% six months after vaccination with the primary series and under 30% nine months after vaccination with a booster dose. This demonstrates a need for additional doses (primarily among older and immunocompromised populations), as well as a need for updated formulations of the vaccine. Despite waning protection, everyone 6 months and older should be vaccinated in an effort to keep themselves and their loved ones healthy for as long as possible.

2. COVID-19 Vaccine Coding
   With the recent change to the use of bivalent-only COVID-19 vaccine products, there have been some updates to the coding structure for COVID-19 vaccine administration and counseling. Refer to this detailed article from the AAP for more information to help ensure you are getting paid for all your efforts! Here is the updated schedule of fees from IL HFS.

3. Janssen No Longer Available
   The Janssen (J&J) COVID-19 vaccine is no longer available in the US, as all remaining doses expired as of May 7, 2023. Any remaining stock should be disposed of in accordance with local, state, and federal regulations. All guidance for use of the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine has also been removed from the CDC website. Those who previously received 1 or 2 doses of Janssen COVID-19 vaccine should receive at least one bivalent dose of a Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.