

Immunization Program

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In this Issue

School Requirements Update There will be **no changes** to required immunizations for school year 2009-2010. The Quick Reference Guide and Frequently Asked Questions have been updated and posted to the CHIRP Document Center.
[Click here for full story.](#)

Update on the Status of Pediatric Hepatitis B Vaccine Since February, there have been intermittent pediatric hepatitis B vaccine supply constraints in the United States, with some local areas experiencing delays in shipments.
[Click here for full story.](#)

Congratulations to the 2008 Gold Award Recipients! The Gold Award is designated by the health commissioner as part of the state's Perinatal Hepatitis B Program, which serves as a resource for the surveillance and control of perinatal hepatitis B infection.
[Click here for full story.](#)

Immunization Update 2009 This live satellite broadcast and webcast will provide up-to-date information on the rapidly changing field of immunization.
[Click here for full story.](#)

11th Edition of the Pink Book Now Available The Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases course textbook, 11th Edition (May 2009), also known as The Pink Book, is now available to download.
[Click here for full story.](#)

Primary Vaccine Coordinator and Backup Vaccine Coordinator Each practice should designate one staff member to be the primary vaccine coordinator. This person will be responsible for ensuring that all vaccines are handled correctly and that procedures are documented.
[Click here for full story.](#)

Ordering Reminders Starting June 1, 2009 all VFC order forms must be filled out completely and submitted on the most current version of the order form. Please remember to order once per month unless you have prior approval.
[Click here for full story.](#)

Delegation Of Authority Update We now have 65 Indiana counties with signed DOA to vaccinate underinsured children!
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Free Help to Quit Tobacco? Health Care Pros Make the Difference Physicians, nurses and health care professionals can make the difference in helping people to stop using tobacco. In fact, they're waiting to hear just that advice.
[Click here for full story.](#)

Upcoming Events [Click here](#) list of events.

School Requirements Update

School Year 2009-2010

There will be **no changes** to required immunizations for school year 2009-2010. The Quick Reference Guide and Frequently Asked Questions have been updated and posted to the CHIRP Document Center.

Please note that the change in number of required DTaP/DTP/DT/Td is just a correction. The previously posted number of doses was only accurate if a child had delayed immunizations. This was the exception, not the rule. The number has been corrected to reflect the rule. For children with delayed immunizations, please consult the CDC "Catch-up Immunization Schedule".

Please keep in mind that immunizations must be administered at appropriate ages and intervals to be valid. The numbers posted on the Quick Reference Guide assume that the child's immunizations meet these age/interval requirements. A

child may need additional immunizations if the age/interval guidelines have not been met. [Click here for the Minimal Intervals Schedule.](#)

School Year 2010-2011

There will be **2 changes** to required immunizations for school year 2010-2011. All children in 6th to 12th grades will be required to have 1 valid Tdap and 1 valid Meningococcal.

School Based Immunization Clinics

To assist schools and local health departments in ensuring all 6th to 12th grade students are vaccinated by the start of the 2010 school year, ISDH has formed a workgroup to create a School Based and Offsite Immunization Clinic guide. To submit information regarding your previous experiences with school based immunization clinics, please complete the attached survey. If you would like to be a part of the workgroup or would like more information, please contact April Bailey at abailey@isdh.in.gov or (317) 233-6923.

[Back to top](#)

Update on the Status of Pediatric Hepatitis B Vaccine

Since February, there have been intermittent pediatric hepatitis B vaccine supply constraints in the United States, with some local areas experiencing delays in shipments. Despite these supply constraints, current analysis indicates that during the remainder of 2009, sufficient pediatric hepatitis B vaccine will be available to meet demand, if providers continue to order vaccine judiciously. To ensure a sufficient amount of pediatric hepatitis B vaccine is available for children, use of two pediatric hepatitis B doses for adults is strongly discouraged.

ISDH has the opportunity to offer the combination Hep A and B vaccine (Twinrix®) to Local Health Departments for their at risk and high risk individuals. Please refer to the [Vaccine Eligibility Statement](#) for the individuals who are eligible to receive this vaccine under this program.

For question about using Twinrix®, please contact the Adult Immunization Coordinator, Alex ThurdeKoos at althurdekoos@isdh.in.gov.

[Back to top](#)

Congratulations to the 2008 Gold Award Recipients!

- Marion General Hospital
- Margaret Mary Community Hospital
- St. Francis Mooresville
- S. John's Health System
- Union Hospital

The Gold Award is designated by the health commissioner as part of the state's Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program, which serves as a resource for the surveillance and control of perinatal hepatitis B infection. "Case management through the PHB Program has been effective in ensuring high levels of initiation and completion of post-exposure immunoprophylaxis identified among infants born to HBsAg-positive women and high levels of HBsAg testing of pregnant women and their sexual/household contacts."

Audits were performed on birthing hospitals 2007 mother and infant charts during the summer of 2008. Hospitals receiving the Gold Award had a rating of 98% or higher on their hepatitis-B birth-dose administration. These hospitals also had Written Policies and Standing Orders regarding delivery of HBsAg positive women and their infants.

For more information on the Gold Award or the Perinatal Hepatitis B Program, contact us at (800) 701-0704 or immunize@isdh.in.gov.

[Back to top](#)

11th Edition of the Pink Book Now Available

The Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases course textbook, 11th Edition (May 2009), also known as The Pink Book, is now available to download at <http://cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/default.htm>. The new 4 part training is also available on DVD or Web on Demand at <http://cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/epivac/default.htm>.

The Pink Book is published by the National Immunization Program, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and provides physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, pharmacists, and others with the most comprehensive information on vaccine-preventable diseases.

[Back to top](#)

Immunization Update 2009

July 30, 2009; Offered twice at 9:00 - 11:30 AM and 12:00 Noon - 2:30 PM ET

This live satellite broadcast and webcast will provide up-to-date information on the rapidly changing field of immunization. Anticipated topics include influenza (including H1N1 influenza), rotavirus, vaccine safety and vaccine supply. So-called "alternative" vaccine schedules and other emerging vaccine issues will also be discussed. The 2.5-hour broadcast will occur live from 9:00 to 11:30 am and will be re-broadcast that day from 12:00 noon to 2:30 pm (Eastern Time). Both broadcasts will feature a live question-and-answer session in which participants nationwide can interact with the course instructors via toll-free telephone lines.

For more information, visit <http://www2a.cdc.gov/phtn/immupdate2009/default.asp>.

[Back to top](#)

Primary Vaccine Coordinator and Backup Vaccine Coordinator

Each practice should designate one staff member to be the primary vaccine coordinator. This person will be responsible for ensuring that all vaccines are handled correctly and that procedures are documented. Proper vaccine storage and handling procedures include but are not limited to the following tasks:

- Ordering vaccines
- Overseeing proper receipt and storage of vaccine shipments
- At least twice daily temperature monitoring of the refrigerator(s) and freezer(s)
- At least twice daily recording on the temperature logs
- Response to storage temperatures outside the recommended range
- Maintenance of storage and handling equipment and records
- Rotation of vaccine stock so that vaccine closer to its expiration date will be used first
- Monitoring expiration dates on vaccines and ensuring that expired vaccine is not administered to patients
- Overseeing proper vaccine transport

Each office should also designate a backup vaccine coordinator who is able to perform the same tasks as the primary vaccine coordinator in the event that the primary person is unavailable. Both the primary and backup vaccine coordinators should be fully trained in routine and emergency procedures related to vaccine shipments, storage, handling, transport, and inventory management.

Other Staff

Other staff members who handle or administer vaccines should also be familiar with the site's policies and procedures for vaccine storage and handling. This includes staff members, such as receptionists and mail handlers, who accept vaccine shipments. These policies and procedures should be available in writing as a reference for all staff members. Both the [Routine Vaccine Storage and Handling Plan](#) and the [Emergency Vaccine Retrieval and Storage Plan](#) should be easily accessible and should be kept near the vaccine storage units.

Training

During new staff orientation, all staff who administer vaccines should be trained in proper vaccine storage and handling practices. This toolkit can serve as a training guide, or you can request an ISDH Health Educator to provide training onsite by emailing immunize@isdh.in.gov.

Vaccine storage and handling practices should be reviewed annually to update all staff members on the latest policies. Records should be kept of vaccine training sessions and attendees.

All staff members responsible for vaccines should understand the importance of cold chain maintenance and the procedures to follow if there is a break in the cold chain. There is no benefit to recording the temperature in a vaccine storage unit if action is not taken when the temperature is outside the recommended range. All staff members should know that any break in the cold chain must be reported immediately to the vaccine coordinator or to the immediate supervisor. The vaccine coordinator and supervisory staff should know that **immediate action** must be taken to correct inappropriate storage conditions (including both inappropriate light exposure and inappropriate temperature exposure), and procedures for ensuring the vaccine is still viable.

Excerpt from the CDC Vaccine Storage & Handling Toolkit. Full S&H Toolkit can be downloaded at <http://www2a.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/shtoolkit/pages/personnel.htm>.

[Back to Top](#)

Ordering Reminders

- Starting June 1, 2009 all VFC order forms must be filled out completely and submitted on the most current version of the order form.
- Please remember to order once per month unless you have prior approval.
- If an order is faxed twice, it will be received twice, and then it will be entered twice.

If you have questions, please contact us at (800) 701-0704 or immunize@isdh.in.gov.

[Back to top](#)

Delegation Of Authority Update

We now have 65 Indiana counties with signed DOA to vaccinate underinsured children! Thank you to the LHDs, RHCs, and FQHCs who have allowed us to expand coverage to our underinsured children.

If you are a LHD without DOA and you would like more information, please call your ISDH representative, or Joan Duwve, MD, MPH, ISDH Medical Director at (317) 233-7164.

[Back to Top](#)

Free Help to Quit Tobacco? Health Care Pros Make the Difference

Physicians, nurses and health care professionals can make the difference in helping people to stop using tobacco. In fact, they're waiting to hear just that advice. That's right, tobacco is such a powerful addiction, that any advice from a health care provider will help people quit. Recent price increases are helping, but by getting involved proactively in a patient's care, the smoking rate in Indiana can continue to fall.

If you're a health care provider, the Indiana Tobacco Prevention and Cessation (ITPC) Agency can also provide free help to you in making all of this a reality. Visit www.indianatobaccoquitline.net today and find out how you can enroll your office in the QuitNow Referral Network and begin referring your patients to the free Indiana Tobacco Quitline – 1-800-QUIT-NOW – and, in doing so, they can receive help from a trained quit coach on tips/counseling for helping them to quit.

Remember, numerous evidence-based studies have shown that doctors have the ability to be a major contributor in helping their patients to quit using tobacco. Do it today!

[Back to Top](#)

Upcoming Events

May 28, 2009; 1:00pm - 4:00pm (EST) & May 29, 2009; 9:00am - 4:00pm (EST)

Public Health Nurse Conference

IUPUI Campus Center, Indianapolis, IN, [Click here for registration.](#)

Scroll down the list of events until you reach "Public Health Nurse Conference 2009" and click the "Register" button.

June 26, 2009; 8:30am - 12:00pm (EST); Immunizations from A to Z

Good Samaritan Hospital, Vincennes, IN [Click here for registration form.](#)

August 25-26, 2009

Epidemiology & Vaccine Preventable Disease Training Course

Presented by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

Renaissance Hotel, Carmel, IN

Registration information coming soon!

[Back to Top](#)

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Categories of Immunization Messages:

E-Alert conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

E-Advisory provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

E-Update provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

E-Letter traditional newsletter; distributed every other week with new information and educational articles.
