

2011-12 Influenza VIS are available

The 2011-2012 Influenza Vaccine Information Statements (VIS) were published on 7/26/11 and are now posted on the [MDCH Vaccine Information Statement web page](#). By Federal law, all vaccine providers must give patients, or their parents or legal representatives, the appropriate VIS whenever a vaccination is given. In Michigan, it is important that vaccine recipients, their parents, or their legal representatives be given the Michigan versions of VIS because they include information about the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR). By state law in Michigan, parents must be informed about MCIR. Vaccine Information Statements that are obtained from other sources (e.g., from the CDC or IAC websites) do not contain information about MCIR.

The flu VIS will be made available in multiple languages; translations are in progress. When providers need VIS in additional languages, it is important to obtain them from the MDCH Division of Immunization website, because the Michigan versions of the VIS include information about MCIR. Therefore, be sure to go to www.michigan.gov/immunize for all your VIS needs.

If the language that you are looking for is not on this website, please contact the MDCH Division of Immunization at 517-335-8159. (Please keep in mind that when new or updated VIS are published in English, there is always a lag time before translations are available.)

Information about the use of VIS is also included on the MDCH website. Michigan's [Facts about VIS](#) flyer lists the most recent publication dates for all the VIS.

The Division of Immunization is working on drafts of all of its influenza educational pieces and modules, including the Quick Looks, awaiting ACIP recommendations to be published.

Updates from the June ACIP Meeting

- [ACIP approves influenza vaccine among egg-allergic children](#)
- [Rate of febrile seizures after flu vaccination similar to other childhood vaccines](#)
- [ACIP Recommends Tdap for Pregnant Women](#)

Patient need yellow fever shot for travel?

Adapted from the June 2011 issue of the Minnesota Department of Health's "Got Your Shots?"

If you are referring a patient for yellow fever vaccination, do not give the MMR beforehand. Injectable live virus vaccines should be given on the same day; otherwise, they will need to be separated by at least four weeks. Many travelers cannot wait four weeks to receive yellow fever vaccine.

- [Yellow Fever Vaccination Clinics in Michigan](#)

CDC's Immunization Update scheduled Aug 4

The annual webcast "Immunization Update 2011" is scheduled twice on August 4; the morning program will be broadcast from 9 am to 11:30 am, and the afternoon program from 12 noon to 2:30 pm. A live question-and-answer session will be included at the end of both broadcasts. Anticipated topics include influenza, meningococcal, zoster, Tdap, and human papillomavirus vaccines. Other emerging issues will be discussed, including the latest information from ACIP's June 2011 meeting. The CDC course instructors are Andrew Kroger, MD, MPH; Donna Weaver, RN, MN; and JoEllen Wolicki, BSN, RN.

The broadcasts will be edited and made available as a self-study program 4 to 6 weeks after the broadcast. The program will be available in DVD and web-on-demand formats. [Program details for the Immunization Update are posted online.](#)

AIM is seeking nominees for the 2011 Achievement Award

The nomination process has been opened for the 2011 AIM Outstanding Achievement Award. Please be sure to nominate a deserving individual, community group, or organization for this year's award. Nominees must demonstrate one or more of the following characteristics:

- Consistently contributed to raising and improving immunizations
- Provided outstanding and recognizable improvement in the immunization process
- Promoted the cause of immunizations by involving providers and communities in immunization programming

On the nomination form, it's important to note which of the three criteria your nominee meets. Awards will be determined based on the criteria above.

The nomination form is posted on the AIM Kit website; please note that there is no need to submit multiple nominations; only one nomination per nominee is necessary.

Nominators will be informed if their nominee has been selected and winners will be presented awards at an MDCH Fall Regional Immunization Conference or the November AIM meeting.

Nominations must be submitted by close of business on Tuesday, August 9, 2011.

MDCH 2011 Fall Immunization Conferences

Registration will begin August 29. The dates and locations for the conferences are Oct. 5 (E. Lansing), Oct. 6 (Dearborn), Oct. 18 (Gaylord), Oct. 20 (Marquette), Nov. 1 (Bay City), Nov. 2 (Troy), Nov. 9 (Kalamazoo), and Nov. 10 (Grand Rapids). As more details become available, they will be posted at www.michigan.gov/immunize under Provider Information.

Influenza Sentinel Surveillance: Help Needed from Michigan Physicians

The Outpatient Influenza-like Surveillance Network (ILINet) is a cornerstone of influenza surveillance in Michigan. Effective influenza surveillance can prevent death and disease by detecting unusual viral strains, tracking the spread of epidemics or pandemics, and by assessing the effectiveness of influenza control programs. This year-round surveillance program detected the first case in the 2009 H1N1 Pandemic and played a vital role in monitoring the progression of the pandemic. Sentinels also contribute to disease control and prevention recommendations and influenza vaccine strain selection.

The ILINet consists of health care providers who have volunteered to provide MDCH and CDC with weekly counts of visits to their practices for influenza-like illness (fever \geq 100° with cough, sore throat, or both). They also provide nasal swabs from a subset of patients for respiratory virus testing by MDCH. The duties usually require less than 30 minutes per week.

The advantages of being a sentinel physician include free respiratory virus culture for approximately 11 samples per site per year; weekly feedback on submitted data; weekly summaries of regional, state, and national influenza data; free online subscriptions to *Emerging Infectious Diseases* and the *MMWR*; and free registration at an [MDCH Regional Immunization Conference](#) for reporting regularly.

We are asking medical providers of any specialty in almost any setting that are likely to see patients with influenza-like illness to consider becoming an influenza sentinel. Only those providers who primarily care for institutionalized populations (e.g., nursing homes or prisons) are ineligible.

To enroll or to request additional information, please contact Cristi Carlton, MPH, MDCH Vaccine Preventable Disease Epidemiologist, at 517-335-9104 or Carltonc2@michigan.gov. Further details and current Michigan sentinel surveillance data are available at <http://www.michigan.gov/flu>.

Q

FDA approved Zoster for 50-year-olds earlier this year. Why haven't the ACIP recommendations been changed yet?

A

Even though the FDA approved Zoster vaccine for persons 50 years of age and older in March, FDA licensure changes don't always translate into changes in ACIP recommendations. The ACIP meets in February, June, and October of every year to review data and phrase language, and to vote on any proposed recommendation changes (if a vote is scheduled to take place). During the June meeting, the ACIP delayed voting on Zoster vaccine for individuals 50 years of age and older, as there was insufficient evidence regarding the duration of vaccine protection, as well as vaccine supply issues impacting Zoster vaccine.

- [Summary of ACIP decision](#)

Chickenpox deaths: Near Elimination in U.S.

The impact of the 1-dose varicella vaccination program on varicella deaths has been documented for the early stages of program implementation. During the first 6 years of the program, deaths for which varicella was listed as the underlying cause declined 66% overall and 74% or more for people younger than 50 years.

A recent study, published in the August issue of *Pediatrics* journal, updated the analysis of the mortality rate for varicella for 2002-2007. The study documents the impressive impact on varicella mortality of the 1-dose U.S. vaccination program: a decline of 88% overall and 96% among subjects younger than 50 years. With the current 2-dose program, there is potential that these most severe outcomes could be eliminated.

Michigan Note:

- Michigan has not had a varicella-related death reported since 1999.
- Since varicella vaccine was licensed in 1995, varicella incidence in Michigan has declined by over 94%.

Immunization in the News

- [Three Cases of Tetanus in Michigan](#)
- [CDC stresses need for flu shot every year](#)
- [Michigan Health Officials Urge Measles Protection](#)
- [Detroit News June editorial letter promoted vaccines and MCIR](#)
- [FDA approves Boostrix for people age 65 years and older](#)
- [Vaccines Protect the Youngest Babies](#)
- [Amish parents mirror wider concerns over vaccines](#)

New and Updated Resources

- [HPV4 for Males: Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [New CDC Pink Book now available](#)
- [2012 CDC Travel Health Book Released](#)

Immunization blog encourages conversations about vaccines

The *Shot of Prevention* blog is a place where parents, health care professionals, and others can gather to talk about vaccines. It offers an opportunity to have some real dialogue about vaccines. *Shot of Prevention* is edited by Amy Pisani, executive director of Every Child by Two (ECBT), and Danielle Romaguera, a mother of three who lost a child to pertussis. Individuals with questions about vaccines may find this new blog a helpful resource. Clinicians should feel free to refer vaccine-hesitant parents and patients to *Shot of Prevention* at www.shotofprevention.com

How to subscribe

If you have a colleague who would like to receive this newsletter, it's easy to subscribe. The person wishing to be added to this listserv needs to send an email to MBenhamza@msms.org and enter the word SUBSCRIBE in the subject line.

Subscribers will receive the Michigan Immunization Timely Tips (MITT) newsletter, as well as additional immunization-related updates on a periodic basis. These updates will include news about the [2011 MDCH Fall Regional Immunization Conferences](#).

Michigan's Immunization Timely Tips (MITT)

MITT is posted at www.michigan.gov/immunize under the Provider Information section.

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