

Immunization and Child Profile Update

winter | 2013

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hot topic >>>

Real Families Encourage Flu Vaccine in Updated PSA

The Department of Health updated its "Get Vaccinated. Stop the Flu" public service announcement (PSA). The PSA stars Washington families who talk about why they get vaccinated each year and why others should, too. It also features Secretary of Health John Wiesman.

Flu is unpredictable and serious, even for healthy people. Being sick can also cause missed days from work and school. As one mother says in the video, "I've got to support my family. Missing work is just

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Working Together—Immunization Highlights from the Office Director

Happy holidays! This year turned out to be a year of many transitions. It looks like 2014 will be a year of many new beginnings both in our staffing and our work.

I've been director of the Office of Immunization and Child Profile since November 1. I'm thrilled and honored to move into this role after more than nine years as the office's Health Promotion and Communication Section Manager. Even though I've been in the office for a while, I want to introduce myself to



you and give you some background on where I've been and where I want to go personally and as an office.

I'm a Washington native. I grew up on Bainbridge Island and most of my extended family still lives in Kitsap County. From an early age I wanted a career in health. As a

child I learned the dramatic impact health has on quality of life as my family dealt with melanoma and AIDS. At first I wanted to be a doctor, but while at Whitman College, I

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ask the nurses >>>

The Office of Immunization and Child Profile public health nurses are Linda Barnhart, RN, MSN; Shana Johnny, RN, MN; and Trang Kuss, RN, MN, MPH. E-mail questions to immunenurses@doh.wa.gov and look for selected questions in the next newsletter.

This edition of "Ask the Nurses" focuses on flu, meningococcal, and pneumococcal vaccines. Find [more information on these and all vaccines](#) online.

Flu

Q: If a child got MMR vaccine four days before he or she got Flumist, is the Flumist dose valid?

A: No, two live-virus vaccines must be given at the same visit or separated by 28 days. The dose of Flumist is invalid since it was given second and must be repeated. Repeat it 28 days after the invalid dose.

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ask the nurses >>>

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Q: What is the recommended interval between flu vaccine and an allergy shot?

A: You can give vaccines any time before or after an allergy shot. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) hasn't specified any timeframe between allergy shots and vaccines.

Q: When a child needs two doses of flu vaccine, can I give one dose of each type (injectable and nasal spray)?

A: Yes, as long as the child is the correct age and health status, it's acceptable to give one dose of each type of flu vaccine. Space the doses at least four weeks apart.

Meningococcal

Q: Who should get meningococcal vaccine? What about high-risk people?

A: The following people need routine vaccination against meningococcal disease:

- Adolescents 11 through 18 years
- People two months and older at higher risk for meningococcal disease, including:
 - Those with medical conditions like anatomic or functional asplenia or complement component deficiency.
 - First-year college students who live in dorms.
 - Military recruits.
 - People nine months and older who travel to or live in countries where

meningococcal disease is hyperendemic or epidemic.

- Microbiologists with occupational exposure.

Find a [detailed table on meningococcal vaccine recommendations by age and risk](#) online.

Pneumococcal

Q: If I give pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine to a patient now, how long do I wait before I give flu or Td/Tdap vaccines?

A: You can give flu and Td/Tdap vaccines at the same time or at any time before or after a dose of pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine.

Q: A 16 year-old patient got a 0.25mL dose of flu vaccine normally recommended for kids aged 6 to 35 months. Does she need to get the correct 0.5mL dose or does she get another 0.25mL dose?

A: The pediatric dose is invalid. Repeat it with the correct 0.5mL dose.

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Lonnie Peterson

Editor & Graphic Designer

360-236-3529

lonnie.peterson@doh.wa.gov

Michele Roberts

Managing Editor

360-236-3720

michele.roberts@doh.wa.gov

Proofreaders

Chris Halsell, Michelle Harper, Stephanie Klapstein, Trang Kuss, Karen Meranda, Lin Watson, Jeff Wise

Washington State

Department of Health

Office of Immunization and

Child Profile

PO Box 47843

Olympia, Washington 98504-7843

360-236-3595

1-866-397-0337 (toll free)

oicp@doh.wa.gov

Immunization Information System

Help Desk

206-205-4141

1-800-325-5599 (toll free)

iishelpdesk@kingcounty.gov

Ask the Nurses

immunenurses@doh.wa.gov

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adult and adolescent >>>

Adult Immunization Grant with Pharmacies Extended

For the last two years, the Office of Immunization and Child Profile worked with the Washington State Pharmacy Association on the Prevention and Public Health Fund Adult Immunization Grant. The project targets pharmacists and pharmacies. It expands the role of pharmacies in giving adult vaccines. The project now goes through February 2014 instead of the original end date of August 2013.

Two main objectives of the work are to:

1. Educate pharmacy students on the Washington State Immunization Information System

in view-only access.

2. Assist and train pharmacists on the Immunization Information System.

We're partnering with the University of Washington and Washington State University Schools of Pharmacy to reach the first objective. Students will get view-only access to the system in their pharmacy residency and online training videos. This will help graduates know how to use the system and promote and reinforce it with other pharmacists.

To reach the second objective, the association will:

- Create more training for pharmacists.
- Set up a statewide immunization distribution list for pharmacies and promote it.
- Set up Immunization Information System data sharing agreements with more pharmacies.
- Promote system use to pharmacists.
- Answer pharmacists' questions about the system.

For more information, contact [Marci Getz](#) at 360-236-3534.

child profile health promotion system >>>

Child Profile Reaches Milestone; Lays Groundwork for the Future

After years of hard work, the Office of Immunization and Child Profile launched e-mail distribution of the Child Profile Health Promotion mailings. On October 23, we began to mail an insert to parents with instructions on how to sign up to get the information electronically.

We chose to start small by first offering this option to English-

speaking parents of kids aged one and three months. We mailed the promotional insert to this pilot group for about two weeks. Once done, we assessed the number of sign ups, addressed issues that came up during the pilot, and made changes to the Child Profile Health Promotion System.

In early 2014, we'll mail another

insert to English- and Spanish-speaking parents of kids aged one and three months. This insert will mail for two weeks and we'll do another assessment after that. We'll also create a timeline to offer e-mail distribution to all parents of kids aged birth to six.

For more information, contact [Lonnie Peterson](#) at 360-236-3529.

perinatal hepatitis b >>>

Farewell to Kim Nguyen

In our state, many organizations and partners help build networks and mobilize communities to make an impact on hepatitis B. We're fortunate to have such dedication. Partnerships are key to fighting this silent disease.

After seven years with the Hepatitis B Coalition of Washington, Kim Nguyen

has left to be director of the American Lung Association in Hawaii. Well known to state and local health, Kim made a great impact on hepatitis B prevention, especially in underserved communities.

Her skills greatly contributed to the coalition's success. Kim's leadership has led to national, regional, and

state recognition.

We thank Kim for her countless hours and energy devoted to the coalition's charge. The work couldn't get done without the active sharing of coalition members and support from local health. We're excited for Kim and her new opportunity. You will be missed!

resources and updates >>>

Office of Immunization & Child Profile Staff Updates

New to the office

Stephanie Klapstein, Health Educator, joined the Health Promotion and Communication Section in November. Stephanie will work on childhood and adolescent immunization promotion activities. She'll also support health promotion and communication work around school and child care. Stephanie's most current position was with the Department of Revenue. She also worked temporarily in the Department of Health Communications Office during the pertussis epidemic. Contact Stephanie at stephanie.klapstein@doh.wa.gov or 360-236-3812.

Sabine Meuse, QA/QI Unit Supervisor, joined the Vaccine and Registry Integration Section in October. The section works on storage and handling, economic order

quantity, and quality assurance and improvement activities. Sabine started at the Department of Health in 2004 as a strategic analyst. Contact Sabine at sabine.meuse@doh.wa.gov or 360-236-3620.

Brandon Prall, Child Profile Health Promotion Lead, joined the Health Promotion and Communication Section in October. Brandon is the lead on Child Profile evaluation, outreach, and partnerships. He comes from the Division of Prevention and Community Health Health Promotion and Communication Section where he did health education work and managed the [HERE database](#). Contact Brandon at brandon.prall@doh.wa.gov or 360-236-3556.

Changed positions

Michele Roberts became director

of the Office of Immunization and Child Profile in November. Michele was manager of the office's Health Promotion and Communication Section since 2005. Contact Michele at michele.roberts@doh.wa.gov or 360-236-3568.

Left the office

Janna Bardi, Office Director, left her position in October. Janna is now director of the Office of Healthy Communities in the Division of Prevention and Community Health.

Mariama Gondo, PPHF VTrckS IIS Interface Project Coordinator, left her position in October. Mariama is now the Washington State Prescription Monitoring Program Operations Manager in the Division of Health Systems Quality Assurance.

HERE: Materials, Resources, & News for all Health Professionals

The Washington State Department of Health has a Health Education Resource Exchange (HERE) website. The [HERE website](#) is a resource for public health professionals who work in state and local health, community organizations, clinics and hospitals, tribes, and schools. It offers many helpful health promotion and health education resources.

Materials

HERE has nearly 600 [materials to download, print, and hand out](#). Easily find materials by subject, audience, language, an A-Z list, or by searching. There are 44 [immunization-related materials](#). Half of them are [Child Profile materials](#).

Resources

Find links to reliable information on 39 evidence-based practices, tools, and topics such as:

- Assessing your community.
- Using program planning models and behavior change theories.
- Evaluating your program.
- Creating and audience testing materials.
- Following social marketing and health literacy principles.
- Using social media in public health.
- Changing policy.
- Improving cultural and linguistic services.

Trainings and events

Find a [calendar](#) of health promotion- and health education-related conferences, webinars, and more. View a list of all [upcoming trainings](#).

Newsletter

A [free online newsletter](#) gets published every two months. [Sign up to get the newsletter](#) by e-mail. Newsletter articles address:

- Key issues in health promotion and education.
- Tools to help you with your job.
- State and local community health efforts.
- Inspirational people who work in public health.
- New trainings.

For more information, contact [Daisye Orr](#) at 360-236-3709.

Immunization Materials Update

Free immunization materials are available from the Office of Immunization and Child Profile.

Visit the [Forms and Publications webpage](#) to view and order materials.

New or Revised Material	Format	Language(s)
"Plain Talk About Childhood Immunization," seventh edition	Online and print (after January 1)	English, Spanish, and Russian

school and child care >>>

Looking Ahead to the New School Year

We posted the [new 2014-2015 Vaccines Required charts](#) online.

There are two versions of the charts—a simpler version for parents and a more detailed version for school, preschool, and child care staff. Use the simpler charts in registration packets and post them online rather than the detailed ones.

We translated the school chart for parents into Chinese, Korean, Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese. The preschool and child care chart for parents is in English and Spanish only.

School requirement changes

- The hepatitis B requirement

change affects Grades kindergarten through 7 and Grades 8 through 12 (there are different requirement changes for each group of grades). See the vaccines required chart for more details.

- The polio requirement affects Grades kindergarten through 3.
- All students in Grades kindergarten through 6 need two doses of varicella vaccine. Please note: accept only healthcare provider verification of chickenpox for kids in these grades. No longer accept parental verification.

School Module Pilot Projects Underway

The Washington State Immunization Information System School Module is a school immunization tracking and reporting system. It will help improve student compliance with immunization requirements and promote healthy kids.

The module is a portal into the statewide system currently used by healthcare providers and schools. Right now, schools access it to look up missing immunizations to see if kids are out-of-compliance with immunization requirements. Schools can also print a Certificate of Immunization Status with

immunization data from the system already filled in.

Future use of the module will let authorized schools link students to a school and access immunizations already entered by providers. This will save many hours spent entering immunizations in their school-specific student information systems. School staff can print student-specific reports and letters to track required immunizations and submit the required yearly status report.

We worked with school nurses for many years to get the module ready.

Immunization Booklet Updated

We worked with several partners to update the booklet, "[Plain Talk About Childhood Immunization](#)." The booklet, now in its seventh edition, gives parents accurate and detailed information to help them make informed immunization decisions for their child. Find the booklet online and order it in print after January 1, 2014. It will be available in English, Spanish, and, for the first time, Russian.

Preschool/child care requirement changes

- We changed the look of the vaccines required chart to clearly show the number of doses due by a specific age. We aligned the requirements with the national immunization schedule.
- Kids need two doses of hepatitis B vaccine by age three months. This matches the national immunization schedule.

For more information, contact [Trang Kuss](#) at 360-236-3760.

We plan to pilot it with a small group of school districts starting in January 2014. The pilot will let school nurses fully use the module to improve students' immunization compliance. This includes school nurses who enter provider-verified immunization records in the system for kids missing immunizations. The pilot will help us create policies and procedures, instructions, and guidelines for the eventual use of the module by all schools in the state.

For more information, contact [Trang Kuss](#) at 360-236-3760.

vaccine management >>>

Update on Vaccine Finance Policy Changes

We got good news from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) about its approach to provider-level changes to vaccine purchasing policy changes. They accepted our proposal to make sure Vaccines for Children (VFC) vaccine is used properly. This means healthcare providers who are part of the State Childhood Vaccine Program won't need to separate vaccine inventory by fund source. We're thrilled with

this news! We figured out ways to meet CDC's need for improved accountability without making providers separate inventory. This supports provider participation in the program without making it harder to manage inventory. We think it helps assure access to vaccines for all kids and lowers the chance of missed vaccination opportunities.

CDC also put off the start date for

all provider-level changes to January 2015. That includes possible changes in the Provider Agreement, Practice Profile, and VFC Status Screening tools. We now have time to get familiar with changes to forms that may affect provider participation in the program. We'll start to analyze changes once we get the new forms.

If you have questions, contact [Jan Hicks-Thomson](#) at 360-236-3578.

Vaccine Management Calendar of Events

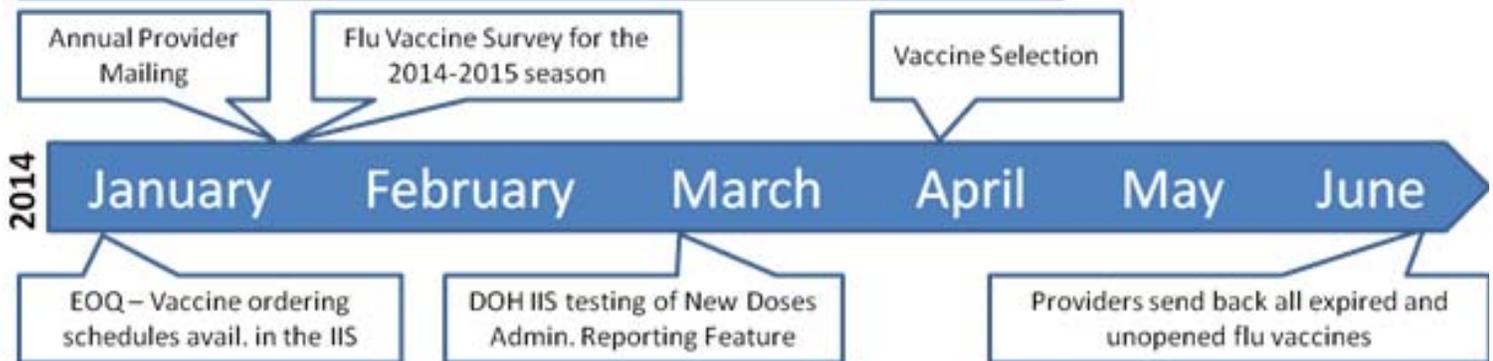
The Office of Immunization and Child Profile will be busy in the first half of 2014 with vaccine management activities. See the timeline below. We continue to improve the Washington State Immunization Information System to support all aspects of vaccine management. Healthcare providers and local health will view

vaccine ordering schedules in the system on January 1. At the end of January, we'll send out the yearly provider mailing and the provider flu vaccine pre-book survey for the 2014-2015 flu season.

From January to April, we'll continue to roll-out online inventory reporting. In March, we'll start to test the new

online doses administered reporting feature in the system. We'll open vaccine selection for providers who want to change vaccine brands in April. At the end of June, providers can send back expired flu vaccine from the 2013-2014 season. Look for more information and reminders as these events get closer!

IIS Online Ordering Reporting Roll Out



The Future of Vaccine Storage & Handling: a 2014 Preview

Exciting things are in store in 2014 for the Vaccine Storage and Handling grant. We aim to improve training opportunities, create quality materials, and streamline storage and handling processes for all healthcare providers in the state.

In 2014 we will:

- Offer online standardized vaccine storage and handling training. We aim to make training more time efficient and easy to use and understand.

- Update forms for temperature monitoring and storage and handling guidelines. Right now, 114 providers in the state are piloting our new materials. We've improved the temperature monitoring log and created guides to answer questions on thermometers and storage units.
- Give better site visit review feedback through performance report cards. They will give helpful information to support

providers' focus on quality improvement.

- Build storage and handling features into the Washington State Immunization Information System. This will reduce some paperwork and update the reporting process for vaccine coordinators.

If you have questions about the grant or the pilot, contact [Phillip Wiltzius](#), grant coordinator, at 360-236-3603.

Vaccine Supply Update

Several vaccines are still in shortage. Only 3000 doses of Pentacel (DTaP/IPV/Hib combo) vaccine are available each month through December. At this time, we're only allocating Pentacel to the highest volume pediatric practices since supply is so limited. We continue to monitor supply and will update allocations as supply changes.

The following sanofi pasteur products are available and not under allocation:

- Daptacel (DTaP)
- Adacel (Tdap)
- ActHIB (Hib)

2014 pre-book survey coming soon!

The online pre-book flu survey will come out in early 2014. We use data from the survey to gauge the type and amount of flu vaccine needed to pre-book for the 2014- 2015 flu season. The survey only takes a few minutes. It's an important part of the

pre-booking process. Watch for notice about the pre-book and take a few minutes to take the survey so we can meet provider needs for childhood flu vaccine.

Flu vaccine update

Don't forget, flu season usually peaks in our state in February. Below is a breakdown of the allocation for each flu product and how much has been ordered:

Flu Vaccine Allocation and Doses Ordered

Product	Doses Allocated	Doses Ordered
FluMist, nasal spray	209,000	168,500
Fluarix, preservative free, .5mL	24,510	10,860
Fluzone, latex free	1000	0
Fluzone, preservative free, .25mL	191,090	142,670
Fluzone, 5mL, MDV	302,000	193,620

Provider Agreement Enrollment in the IIS

We launched online Provider Agreements for the State Childhood Vaccine Program in June 2013. We scheduled 428 healthcare providers to complete the process between June 1 and October 31. By the end of the 5-month period, 99 percent of them turned in agreements through the Washington State Immunization Information System. We approved 97 percent online.

To ensure a smooth renewal process,

follow these “keys to success:”

- Read and follow instructions to complete online re-enrollment
- Set aside time to complete online renewal from start to finish
- Make sure the prescriptive authority signs both the agreement signature page and the frozen vaccine certificate
- Mail the original signature pages

to us as soon as they’re signed and well before the expiration date of the current agreement

In January, providers in our three largest counties will start online re-enrollment for 2014. Providers in King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties will have three months to finish. The rest of the local health jurisdictions will start re-enrollment based on an assigned renewal month. Providers have 30 days to finish.

Re-enrollment Schedule

Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Grant	King	Benton-Franklin	Lincoln	Spokane	Asotin	Clallam	Adams	Chelan-Douglas
Grays Harbor	Pierce	Cowlitz	Pacific	Walla Walla	Clark	Jefferson	Island	Garfield
Skamania	Snohomish	Kitsap	San Juan	Whitman	Columbia	Lewis	Klickitat	Okanogan
Wahkiakum		Kittitas	Skagit		Mason	NE-Tri	Thurston	
		Whatcom	Yakima					

Get ready for 2014 re-enrollment now:

- Gather provider practice profile data from 2013 at the end of the year
- Make sure all active providers’ professional license numbers and NPI numbers are correct

- Gather all new cold storage information (see below) for all units that store state-supplied vaccine

There’s one big change to provider agreements in 2014. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) asked us to gather more data

about vaccine storage equipment in an effort to improve vaccine accountability. To meet this, providers must enter vaccine storage unit information and refrigerator details in the Immunization Information System. Providers with frozen vaccine certificates must also enter freezer details.

Cold Storage Screen Sample

CDC may ask us to make more changes for 2014 enrollment. We’ll share any news with local health and providers as we get it.

If you have questions, contact the [Office of Immunization and Child Profile](#) at 1-866-397-0337.

vfc idea corner >>>

Tip: Plan to take the new required training on Vaccines for Children Compliance Site Visits

In 2014, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will require this training for all site visit reviewers and their supervisors. The training will highlight some new forms and improved processes. As

soon as CDC unveils its changes, we'll schedule the training.

Do you have ideas, tips, or good resources to share? Do you have something that helps you do your work in an easier and smarter way? Please e-mail them to Katherine Harris-Wollburg at katherine.harris-wollburg@doh.wa.gov.

Immunization Highlights from the Office Director

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realized public health was the field in which I could have the most impact on the health of the whole population. I earned my M.P.H. from Johns Hopkins and then completed a two-year program evaluation fellowship at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention before coming to the Washington State Department of Health.

It's an exciting time for immunization! We have a strong immunization community and have accomplished so much together over the last several years. I look forward to sustaining that success and to future opportunities and innovations. I'll need everyone's continued help and input as we move forward.

I have big shoes to fill. We all know and love Janna Bardi and appreciate the immunization champion she is. We've been lucky to have her lead Washington's immunization work for the last 10 years. She accomplished so much. Just to name a few things, Janna:

- Developed strong partnerships that increased community support for immunization.

- Lead a sustainable model for universal vaccine purchase.
- Changed the Washington exemption law to make sure parents make informed immunization decisions.
- Increased community belief in the importance of immunization.

Lucky for us, Janna is close by. She is now director of the department's Office of Healthy Communities. We'll have many opportunities to work with her, especially around Child Profile Health Promotion.

I said 2014 will be a year of new beginnings. You can read about many of them in this newsletter: Child Profile e-mail distribution, new staff, the Washington State Immunization Information System School Module, and increased use of the system for vaccine management. We'll also learn more about how full implementation of the Affordable Care Act will impact immunization rates. Our work is far from done. I look forward to working with all of you to make our state free of diseases that vaccines can prevent.

I wish all of you a very happy new year and I hope to see you soon!

Michelle Roberts

Real Families Encourage Flu Vaccine in Updated PSA

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not an option for me. So a flu shot is an important thing I do every year."

Yearly flu vaccination is recommended for everyone six months and older. It's especially important for young kids; pregnant women; people 65 and older; and people with certain medical conditions, such as asthma, heart disease, diabetes, and neurologic conditions.

Help promote flu vaccination this season. Share the PSA on your website or through social media. [Find the PSA on the department's YouTube page](#). Visit our [Flu News page](#) for more flu resources and information.