



# TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

DAVID L. LAKEY, M.D.  
COMMISSIONER

P.O. Box 149347  
Austin, Texas 78714-9347  
1-888-963-7111  
TTY: 1-800-735-2989  
[www.dshs.state.tx.us](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us)

**TO:** Texas DSHS Adult Safety Net (ASN) Providers

**FROM:** Saroj Rai, Ph.D.   
Immunization Branch Manager

**DATE:** November 8, 2013

**SUBJECT:** DSHS ASN Program Update

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This memo is intended for currently enrolled Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Adult Safety Net (ASN) Providers serving the immunization needs of the uninsured adults in Texas. Please do not disseminate to other providers.

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Immunization Branch continues to offer certain vaccines to uninsured adults through the ASN Program.

## **ASN Formulary**

The following vaccines are currently available as part of the DSHS ASN formulary:

- Hepatitis B
- Measles/Mumps/Rubella
- Tdap
- Td

As additional funding becomes available, the DSHS Immunization Branch may expand the current ASN formulary and add other vaccines (such as Human Papillomavirus (HPV), Varicella, and Meningococcal Conjugate vaccine (MCV4)) to the ASN Program. The addition or subtraction of vaccines to the ASN formulary is based on changes in vaccine recommendations, availability of product, and budgets.

## **Eligibility and Screening Requirements**

In order for an adult to be eligible for the DSHS ASN Program, the client must be uninsured. Adults who have Medicare, Medicaid, or any other private insurance are not eligible for vaccines as part of the ASN Program. In addition, clients who are underinsured (have insurance that does not cover immunizations) are not eligible to receive vaccines that are provided as part of the ASN Program.

The Adult Eligibility Screening Record (attached) is required when administering any ASN vaccine to uninsured adults. The provider must retain this form for five years and

must make it available upon request from the DSHS or Local Health Department (LHD) to ensure program accountability and client eligibility.

### **Administration Fee**

Providers who are enrolled in the DSHS ASN Program receive these vaccines at no cost. Providers cannot bill an uninsured client for the cost of the vaccine. However, an ASN provider may charge an administration fee to the client for each dose that is administered. This fee cannot exceed a maximum of \$25.00 per dose per client. If a client is unable to pay the administration fee, the provider cannot deny the vaccine to the uninsured client.

### **Promotion of the ASN Program**

Provider sites who are enrolled in the ASN Program may promote the availability of these vaccines to the uninsured clients. Providers may conduct off-site, mobile vaccination clinics that offers ASN vaccines to uninsured adults only if the screening eligibility form is completed, and vaccine storage and handling guidelines are followed.

If you have questions, please contact your DSHS Health Service Region (HSR) Adult and Adolescent Immunization (AAI) Coordinator or LHD. The HSR AAI Coordinator contact information for each HSR is included below.

<b>Health Service Region</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>
Region 1	Don Nicholson	806-477-1106	<a href="mailto:Don.Nicholson@dshs.state.tx.us">Don.Nicholson@dshs.state.tx.us</a>
Region 2/3	Laura Collins	817-264-4628	<a href="mailto:Laura.Collins@dshs.state.tx.us">Laura.Collins@dshs.state.tx.us</a>
Region 4/5 North	Ashley Gipson	903-533-5229	<a href="mailto:Ashley.Gipson@dshs.state.tx.us">Ashley.Gipson@dshs.state.tx.us</a>
Region 6/5 South	Stephanie Martin	713-767-3002	<a href="mailto:Stephanie.Martin@dshs.state.tx.us">Stephanie.Martin@dshs.state.tx.us</a>
Region 7	Lynn Ponsonby	254-771-6765	<a href="mailto:Lynn.Ponsonby@dshs.state.tx.us">Lynn.Ponsonby@dshs.state.tx.us</a>
Region 8	Laurie Henefey	830-591-4386	<a href="mailto:Laurie.Henefey@dshs.state.tx.us">Laurie.Henefey@dshs.state.tx.us</a>
Region 9/10	Kathy Wehmeyer	432-571-4138	<a href="mailto:Kathleen.Wehmeyer@dshs.state.tx.us">Kathleen.Wehmeyer@dshs.state.tx.us</a>
Region 11	Nancy Garcia	361-878-3448	<a href="mailto:Nancy.Garcia@dshs.state.tx.us">Nancy.Garcia@dshs.state.tx.us</a>

Attachment:  
Adult Eligibility Screening Record