CHAPTER 8: VACCINE INFORMATION STATEMENTS

Federal law requires all immunization providers (regardless of whether they are enrolled in the ASN Program) to provide to the patient or other responsible adult a current Vaccine Information Statement (VIS). The appropriate VIS must be given prior to the vaccination, and must be given prior to each dose of a multi-dose series.

The VIS informs the patient or other responsible adult about the benefits and risks of the vaccine they are receiving.

Providers should ensure they are using the most current version of each VIS. A list of current VIS dates for each vaccine can be found on the Immunization Action Coalition (IAC) website at www.immunize.org/vis.

Providers may provide the VIS as a paper copy or in the following ways:

- A permanent, laminated, office copy of each VIS, which may be read prior to vaccination;
- Reviewed on a computer monitor or video display; or
- Downloaded by the client, parent, guardian, or other responsible adult to a smartphone or other electronic device.

The VISs can be made available to be read before the immunization visit from a copy that was given to the patient or other responsible adult, or by telling them how to download or view a copy from the
internet. They must still be offered a copy in one of the formats mentioned above to be read during the immunization visit, as a reminder.

Providers must offer a copy (which can be an electronic copy) of each appropriate VIS to take away following the vaccination.

Providers must take reasonable steps to provide information in the appropriate languages in order to ensure patients with limited English proficiency are effectively informed. All VISs are available in more than 20 languages and can be downloaded from the IAC website at www.immunize.org/vis.