

THE SHARPSHOOTER January 2011

A Publication for Local Health Departments & TVFC Providers serving Health Service Regions 2 & 3

Influenza Vaccination is Recommended for almost Everyone, so Please Keep Vaccinating!

Influenza vaccination is recommended for everyone age 6 months and older, so please keep vaccinating your patients.

For TVFC providers, additional influenza vaccine stock has been made available. FluMist, multi-dose vials, and .25 and .5 pre-filled syringes are currently available to order. If your office needs more flu vaccine, please contact your local or regional health department to order. Flu vaccine can not be ordered in EVI at this time.

All providers should have already received most, if not all, of their flu vaccine for the season. As for orders placed on December 7th, almost all flu vaccine orders have been filled. The outstanding orders are for providers who have requested that the vaccine be sent later in the month.

If you need adult influenza vaccine you can purchase vaccine by going to IVATS, the Influenza Vaccine Availability Tracking System. IVATS is operated by the National Influenza Vaccine Summit and provides information about vaccine manufacturers and distributors who have influenza vaccine available for purchase. To access IVATS, go to: <http://www.preventinfluenza.org/ivats>.

If you do not wish to purchase vaccine, you can direct patients to the Google Flu Vaccine Finder. It helps the public find nearby locations where influenza vaccine is available. It's as simple as entering a zip code. Visit the Google Flu Finder at: <http://www.google.com/flushot>.

Additional Influenza Resources:

National Influenza Vaccine Summit website: <http://www.preventinfluenza.org>

IAC's Influenza website: <http://www.immunize.org/influenza>

CDC's Flu website: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu>

For IAC's handouts related to influenza, including screening questionnaires, patient education, and sample standing orders, go to: <http://www.immunize.org/handouts/influenza-vaccines.asp>



In This issue.....

Page 2 School Nurse's Tricks and Tips
Hepatitis B Testing for Asian Americans

Page 3 What's New with ImmTrac?
Events, Meetings and Resources

Page 4 Questions from the field

Page 5 Steps to Complete You Monthly
Vaccine Report in EVI

Page 6 Current Vaccine Information
Statements

HSR 2/3 Immunization Staff

School Nurse's Tricks and Tips

Immunization record management can be tricky for even seasoned school nurses. I would like to take a moment to discuss some of the best practices and pitfalls you may have to overcome while managing your immunization records. As you know, getting your hands on the record is the trick! School nurses who use ImmTrac are able to look up and print the student's record immediately vs. sending a note home and hoping it makes it back to school.

Whether you are using an electric system to store records, or the traditional paper copy, the following “**Best Practices**” may help with your immunization record management.

- If using a paper system, note the child's ImmTrac ID on the form for quick reference.
- Electronic record users might consider creating a small notebook by grade with the student's name, ImmTrac ID and the ID for the school system.
- Send home an ImmTrac brochure and consent form for those students not currently enrolled. Once consent is received, add the child's immunizations to ImmTrac.
- Not registered with ImmTrac? Go to www.immtrac.tdh.state.tx.us today and sign up! It's a free service and we will be glad to assist you with any questions or technical assistance needed.

Time is a *hot* commodity. School nurses are often burdened by multiple requests at one time. To help curb last minute panic by parents (and yourself), consider the following:

- Send a copy of the student's immunization record with the final report card for all seniors. Include a note reminding parents to keep this with their important papers as proof of immunizations is necessary throughout life.
- Consider sending all 6th graders and Pre K students a letter stating the vaccine requirements for next year. Just before spring break might be a great time to do that. That will give parents lots of time to schedule necessary appointments.
- When sending home letters to parents regarding missing immunizations, be sure to include the most up to date copy of the child's complete immunization record. This will ensure that all needed doses are given and no duplicate vaccines are given.

The Importance of Hepatitis B Testing for Asian Americans

400 million people worldwide have chronic Hepatitis B. Approximately one-third of the Hepatitis B virus disproportionately affects Asian and Pacific Islanders. As many as one in ten Asian Americans have chronic Hepatitis B which makes up 1.25 million individuals in the United States.

The Hepatitis B Foundation, together with the Department of Health and Human Service's Office of Minority Health Organizations, created a 30 second public service announcement to raise community awareness of hepatitis B and encourage Asian Americans to get tested for prevention of the disease.

“Could you be one of them? Get tested, Get vaccinated, Get Treated”

View the video at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zckvA4IMHYY>

For questions regarding Hepatitis B Testing, contact Amy Wong, Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program Coordinator at: Amy.wong@dshs.state.tx.us

What's New with ImmTrac?

New ImmTrac Custom Report Options

- ImmTrac users who utilize the client Reminder/Recall function can now request reports, letters, and label data to be sorted by zip code and city in addition to sorting by last name/first name/date of birth. The default sort will remain last name/first name/date of birth. Reminder/Recall labels will be formatted to fit on standard Avery 5160 2 5/8" x 1" label size.

Add Up to 10 Immunizations at One Time

- ImmTrac users can add up to five additional immunizations when updating a client's record. On the *Add client Immunization* screen, select the *Add Rows* button to enter more than five current immunizations.

Add Client Historical Immunizations Rapidly

- The newest option, *Add Client Historical Immunizations*, allows users to add immunizations administered more than 28 days ago using only vaccine type and date administered. **Users can also enter up to five doses administered of the same vaccine.**

Copy and Paste CPT Codes

- When updating client immunizations on the *Add client information* screen, ImmTrac users may choose to type or copy and paste the vaccine CPT code into the CPT code box. Either way, the corresponding vaccine description will automatically populate. Selecting a vaccine using the current drop-down menu will remain unchanged.

New Pandemic Formulation/Enhanced Immunogenicity Influenza Vaccines in ImmTrac

- ImmTrac users may now enter a new enhanced immunogenicity influenza virus vaccine for clients 65 years of age and older (brand name Fluzone® High Dose). The ImmTrac short description for this vaccine is "influenza, enhanced immunogenicity, 65+ years."
- ImmTrac Users may also enter four new H1N1 pandemic formulations in the Antivirals, Immunizations and Medications (AIMs block). These have been added to the AIMs drop-down menu.

Please call ImmTrac Customer Support at (800) 348-9158 for additional information or assistance.

EVENTS, MEETINGS and RESOURCES

The 2011 National Immunization Conference (NIC) will be held March 28-31 In Washington, DC. Register by February 18th to get the early-bird rate. For additional information, visit: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/events>

The School of Public Health, State University of New York, Albany is offering Free CE credit for viewing the webinar "Protecting your Vaccine: Protecting your Patients." To view it, go to: <http://www.albany.edu/sph/coned/phl/protect.htm>

National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) will be held April 23-30. Take steps to create or enhance your program that is tailored to the needs of your community

CDC has added a 2010 Influenza module to the "You Call the Shots" Course. CE credit is offered. To access the influenza module, go to <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/youcalltheshots.htm>

The 2011 Adult Immunization Schedule will be published February 4th. **The Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedule** will be published February 11th.

Continued from page 3

CDC and Medscape have collaborated to deliver CDC's authoritative guidance on various health related issues directly to Medscape's physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and other healthcare professionals. Experts from CDC offer video commentaries on the current topics important to practicing clinicians. The National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD) has contributed to available commentaries on Tdap, pertussis, meningococcal disease, seasonal and H1N1 influenza/vaccines, and pneumococcal disease/PCV13. Please visit the Medscape. Web page at: <http://www.Medscape.com/medscapetoday>.

Check out the new ImmTrac website at: <http://www.ImmTrac.com>. The format has been changed to make it a more user-friendly site.

"Evidence Shows Vaccines Unrelated to Autism." IAC's newest handout is extremely helpful when talking with parents who have read about or heard claims that vaccines cause autism. The 2-page document lays out scientific evidence that refutes claims that any relationship exists between vaccines and autism. It also presents information on the findings of current research into autism's causes. To access the handout, go to: <http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4028.pdf>.

The 21st Annual Meeting of the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America will be held April 1-4th in Dallas, Texas. For information, go to: <http://www.shea2011.com/>

The American Nurses Association and Every Child by Two have produced an online CE webcast on vaccine safety and patient communication. For comprehensive information, go to: <http://www.anaimmunize.org/Webcast>.

Questions from the field...

Which vaccines may be given simultaneously?

All vaccines used for routine vaccination in the United States may be given simultaneously. There is no evidence that simultaneous administration of vaccines either reduces vaccine effectiveness or increases the risk of adverse events. If you miss giving recommended vaccines at the same visit, any inactivated vaccine (e.g., DTaP, Tdap, HPV) can be administered any time before or after a different inactivated or live vaccine (e.g., MMR, Varicella, LAIV). Any 2 live vaccines not given at the same time must be given at least 4 weeks apart. http://www.immunize.org/askexperts/experts_general.asp.

If two live virus vaccines are inadvertently given less than 4 weeks apart, what should be done?

If two live virus vaccines are administered less than 4 weeks apart and not on the same day, the vaccine given second should be considered invalid and repeated. The repeat dose should be administered at least 4 weeks after the valid dose. Alternatively, one can perform serologic testing to check for immunity, but this option may be more costly. http://www.immunize.org/askexperts/experts_general.asp

What is the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program?

VFC is a program designed to reduce or eliminate vaccine cost as a barrier to childhood vaccination. The program purchases vaccines from manufacturers at federal contract prices and provides them at no cost to participating public and private healthcare providers for use in children through age 18 years who are eligible for Medicaid, are uninsured, or are American Indian or Native American. Children whose health insurance benefit plan does not cover a particular VFC vaccine are also able to receive VFC vaccine at a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or Rural Health Clinic (RHC). If you are interested in becoming a VFC provider, please contact Cindy Grier, HSR 2/3 Texas Vaccines for Children Coordinator at: Cindy.Grier@dshs.state.tx.us.

Steps to Complete Your Monthly Vaccine Report In the Electronic Vaccine Inventory System (EVI)

Step 1: Log onto EVI at: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize>

Click on Vaccine Choice

Enter User Name and Password

Complete Provider Information

- This step contains the clinic's shipping address, hours of operation and contact information. Please review this information carefully for accuracy.

Step 2: Complete the Current Inventory page

- This step is for providers to record the on hand physical inventory by brand and presentation. These numbers should match the (H) column of your biological report (C-33).

Step 3: Submit Order

- If more or less vaccines are needed other than what EVI recommends, please submit a comment in the box next to that vaccine. Be sure to enter the date(s) and hour(s) the clinic will be closed in the appropriate box at the bottom of the page. Click on the 3 confirmation statement boxes and print a copy of the order **before** clicking the submit buttons.

Please remember, we must receive your monthly biological report (C-33) and temperature log (C-105) each month via fax or mail before your order can be approved.

Additional information on the following items can be found at: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us>

Provider Information

- [EC-33 Monthly Biological Report October 21, 2010 Updated](#)
- [EC-68 Pediatric Biological Order Form September 2, 2010 Updated](#)
- [EC-68 Adult Biological Order Form September 2, 2010 Updated](#)
- [Physical Inventory September 2, 2010 Updated](#)
- [Vaccine choice Provider Agreement May 24, 2010](#)
- [Vaccine choice Survey Due July 31, 2010](#)
- [Vaccine Choice Survey Instructions May 17, 2010](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) May 24, 2010](#)
- [Pediatric Vaccine Choice Information List May 19, 2010](#)
- [Adult Vaccine choice Information List May 19, 2010](#)
- [Pediatric Vaccine Default List May 19, 2010](#)
- [Adult Vaccine Default List May 19, 2010](#)
- [Storage Calculation Tool Instructions May 28, 2010](#)
- [Storage Calculation Tool May 21, 2010](#)

Training

- [Vaccine Choice Provider Online Training August 25, 2010 Updated](#)
- [Printable Training Presentation August 27, 2010](#)
- [Choice Presentation July 16, 2010](#) – for providers unable to attend LHD/HST training

Electronic Vaccine Inventory (EVI) System

- [Electronic Vaccine Inventory \(EVI\) Sign-In September 1, 2010](#)

If there are any questions regarding the information listed, please call your Local Health Department or Regional Office.

CURRENT VACCINE INFORMATION STATEMENT (VIS) DATES

DTaP/DT	05/17/07
Hepatitis A	03/21/06
Hep B	07/18/07
Hib	12/16/98
HPV	03/30/10
Influenza (LAIV)	08/10/10
Influenza (TIV)	08/10/10
Meningococcal	01/28/08
MMR	03/13/08
Multi-vaccine	09/18/08
PCV 13	04/06/10
PPSV	10/06/09
Polio	01/01/00
Rotavirus	12/06/10
Shingles	10/06/09
Td & Tdap	11/18/08
Varicella	03/13/08



Check your VIS against this list. If you have outdated VIS's, search the following website to get current versions:
<http://www.immunize.org/vis/>

Use of the VIS is mandatory!

Before a National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act-covered vaccine is administered to anyone (this includes adults!), you must give the patient or the parent/legal representative a copy of the most current VIS available for that vaccine. Make sure you give the patient time to read the VIS prior to the administration of the vaccine.

You must record in your patient's chart the date the VIS was given. You must also record on the patient's chart the date the VIS was given.

You must also record on the patient's chart the publication date of the VIS, which appears on the bottom of the VIS.

IMMUNIZATION STAFF

Please direct your immunization questions to your Health Service Region 2/3
 Immunization Staff

Program Manager

Sonna Sanders
 (817) 264-4791

Contract Specialist

Cheryl Millican
 (817) 264-4795

Population Assessment Coordinator

Vacant

Region 2 Public Site Visit Coordinator

Ronda Meyer
 (325) 795-5873

VFC Coordinator

Cindy Grier
 (817) 264-4793

Perinatal Hep B Coordinator

Amy Wong
 (817) 264-4769

Region 3 Public Site Visit Coordinator

Frederick Grimes
 (817) 264-4796

PICS Coordinator

Matthew Honza
 (817) 264-4891

ImmTrac Coordinator

Sandi Geisler
 (817) 264-4811

Vaccine Account Representative

Pam Benavidez
 (817) 264-4790

Adolescent-Adult Coordinator

Vacant

Vaccine Account Representative

Arma Carter
 (817) 264-4794

Vaccine Account Representative

Sue Crockett
 (817) 264-4797

Vaccine Account Representative

Elena Valencia
 (817) 264-4792