



**TEXAS**  
Health and Human  
Services

**Texas Department of State  
Health Services**

# **Adult Safety Net**

## **Program Updates 2025**

Adult Safety Net Program

Immunizations Section

Texas Department of State Health Services

# DISCLAIMER

The information presented today is based on the most recent guidance from the CDC and Texas DSHS and may be subject to change.

# Agenda

- Welcome
- Adult Safety Net (ASN) program overview
- Changes made to ASN (TVFC/ASN Manual changes)
- IQIP strategies to increase patient vaccinations
- Closing

# ASN Program



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# Adult Immunizations

## Importance

- Immunizations provide protection for:
  - The patient
  - The patient's loved ones
  - The patient's community
- Certain populations are particularly high-risk for vaccine-preventable diseases:
  - Adults 65+
  - Immunocompromised
  - Pregnant women
  - First responders, health care providers, etc.

# ASN Program History

May 2003–Present

20 years of service

- Inception: Hepatitis B initiative
- Past: Served uninsured and underinsured adults
- Currently: Increase access to vaccination services in Texas for uninsured adults
  - Supplies adult vaccines at no cost to a network of providers

The ASN program has become one of the major factors in improving adult vaccination rates in Texas today.

# ASN Formulary

The ASN program supplies the following ACIP-recommended vaccines:

- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Hep A-hep B combination
- MMR
- MCV4
- Td
- Tdap
- COVID-19





# ASN Program Updates



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# Clarification

## COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Fee Memo

- COVID-19 vaccine eligibility is only for uninsured adults 19 years and older.
- Providers may charge a vaccine administration fee up to \$25.
- Like other ASN vaccines, you may not charge for the vaccine itself.



# ASN Eligibility Form Changes

## Screening Form:

- Removed the COVID-19 section of the form as that is no longer valid.
- Updated the form to reflect any policy changes and updates we experienced within the year.

## Special Situations Screening Form:

- Updated the eligibility screening form for the "Flu for Farmworkers," which leadership approved. VDF oversees this specific project.

Standard ASN eligibility form waiting Spanish translation.

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### Adult Safety Net (ASN) Program

#### ADULT ELIGIBILITY SCREENING RECORD

**PURPOSE:** To determine and record eligibility for the DSHS ASN program. A record of the eligibility status of adults receiving vaccine supplied by DSHS must be maintained either in hard copy by the clinic providing the service or in an electronic system. Hard copies must be maintained for five years. ASN eligibility screening and documentation of eligibility status must take place at each immunization visit to ensure eligibility status for the program.

Date of Screening: \_\_\_\_\_  
(mm/dd/yyyy)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First) (Middle initial)

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender:  Male  Female Veteran:  Yes  No  
(mm/dd/yyyy)

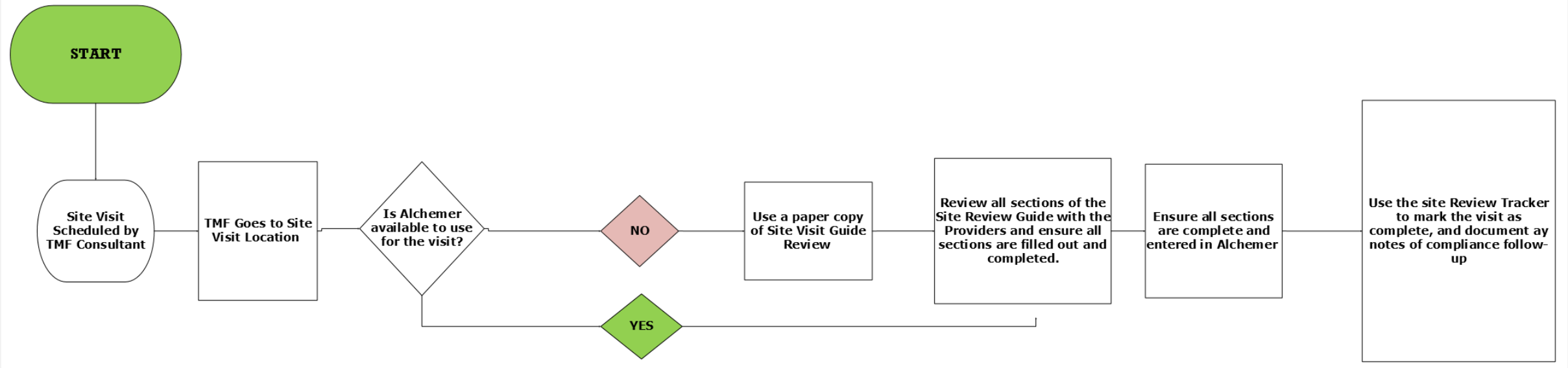
*Important Information for Former Military Service Members: Women and men who served in any branch of the United States Armed Forces, including Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard, Reserves or National Guard may be eligible for additional benefits and services. For more information, please visit the Texas Veterans Portal at <https://texvet.org/partners/texasgov>.*

# Site Visits

- TMF Health Quality Institute is an institute that promotes quality health care collaboration through contracts with the Texas State Government and other federal and local entities.
- TMF contract consultants will perform site visits for each region's dual providers.
- Adult immunization coordinators (AICs) will have to do ASN-only site visits and follow-up site visits when notified to send the notification.
- Both TMF and AICs will use the Site Review Tracking Excel document to coordinate and notify all parties involved by:
  - Completed site visits
  - Notifications of temperature excursions
  - Documentation of any providers that have withdrawn from the program or have become a dual providers

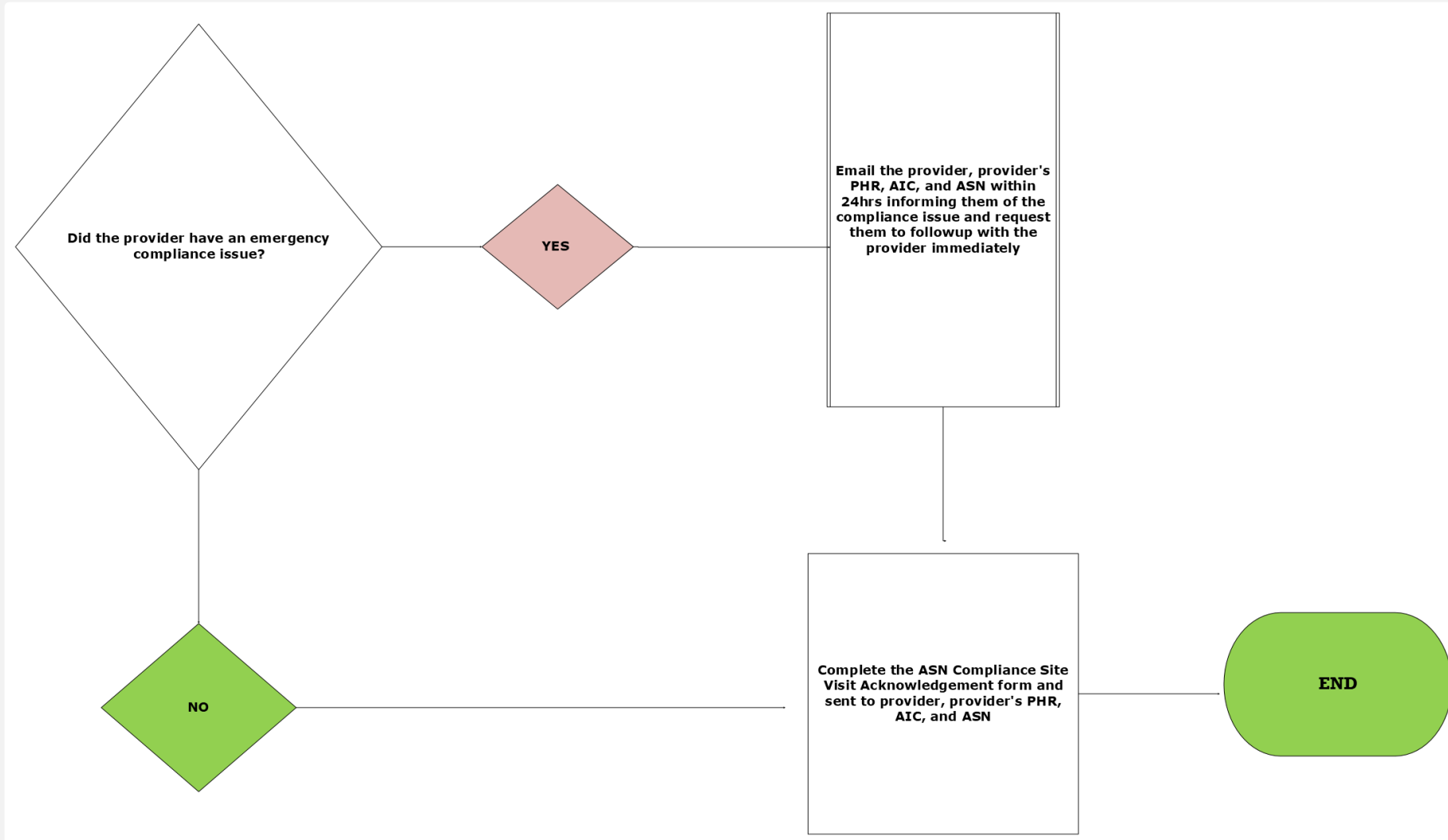
# ASN Program Site Review Process

## Part 1



# ASN Program Site Review Process

## Part 2



# IQIP Strategies

## Increasing Patient Vaccinations



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# Increasing Patient Vaccinations

## Strategies

1. Facilitate Return for Vaccination
2. Leverage immunization information system (IIS) functionality to improve immunization practice
3. Give a strong vaccine recommendation (include HPV vaccine if provider has adolescent patients)
4. Strengthen vaccination communications





# Facilitate Return for Vaccination

Facilitating the patients return for vaccination promotes adherence to the schedule by:

- Explicitly specifying when future doses are due and why.
- Establishing continuity of care by supporting the patient's return to the office.
- Creating a commitment to return and reducing barriers to act on favorable intentions to vaccinate.



# Leverage IIS Functionality

High-quality data in IIS can support providers.



Examples of strategy implementation activities:

- Provide consolidated vaccination records for each patient
- Generate lists of patients due for vaccines
- Forecast future dose due dates to assist with scheduling
- Deliver reminders for upcoming appointments
- Provide practice-based coverage assessments

# Strong Vaccine Recommendation

On-time vaccination depends on adults choosing to vaccinate themselves.



Examples of strategy implementation activities:

- Use presumptive language when giving a strong vaccine recommendation
- Prepare and practice responses to common parent questions and concerns about vaccination
- Arrange for provider education and any necessary training on the new approach

# Strengthen Communications

Trust in vaccines is not built through a top-down approach, but through conversations between parents, doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and community members.



The successful implementation of vaccine strategies may include:

- Developing and implementing a practice-wide vaccination policy.
- Including vaccine-related material (e.g., ACIP immunization schedule) in new patient information packets.
- Directing questions to the appropriate staff should the parent have questions or concerns.

# Q&A

- Do you have any questions?



**Thank you!**

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