

Monthly Immunization Update

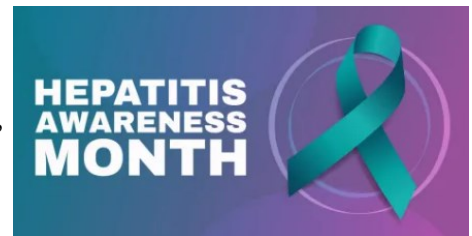
May 2024

Dear Providers and Partners,

The purpose of this newsletter is to deliver quick and meaningful updates to support our providers in a variety of vaccine settings and, maintain our connection with all of you. We welcome your questions and comments. Please feel free to share this newsletter with your colleagues. Thank you!

Hepatitis Awareness Month

May is designated as **Hepatitis Awareness Month** in the United States, providing 31 days to raise awareness of viral Hepatitis in the United States. During May, agencies and offices across the federal government well as state and local partners work to raise awareness of the importance of vaccination for Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B, testing for Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C, the availability of effective care and curative treatment, and the serious health consequences resulting from undiagnosed and untreated viral hepatitis. The month-long observance includes Hepatitis Testing Day on May 19th. These observances are important opportunities to raise widespread awareness of viral hepatitis and its impact in the U.S. and expand our coordinated national efforts to improve the health of the estimated 862,000 people living with Hepatitis B and 2.4 million people living with Hepatitis C.



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For more information please click [here](#).

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Celebrated in May, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month recognizes and honors the contributions, achievements, and influence of Asian Americans and Pacific Islander Americans (AAPI) who have shaped the culture and history of the United States. This month is a good reminder to meet the [health needs](#), of our AAPI community by promoting vaccination and addressing [health disparities](#) around Hepatitis B. The AAIP population includes more than half of Americans with chronic [Hepatitis B](#), yet only about 6% of the entire population. Many first-generation [immigrants from China, Korea, Vietnam, and the Pacific Islands have been highly impacted by the virus](#) as it has been circulating for thousands of years and passed down generations.



Recommendations to Encourage Routine Childhood Vaccinations

Each year that kids return to school, routine childhood and age-specific vaccinations are a top public health priority. With the spread of misinformation about vaccine safety, encouraging childhood vaccine uptake is both timely and critical. Informed by national [polling data on public opinion regarding routine childhood vaccinations](#), published by *Health Affairs Forefront*, the Public Health Communications Collaborative has developed tailor-made messaging recommendations to bolster support of routine childhood vaccinations in your community.



Underscore the individual benefits of routine childhood vaccination

According to poll data, most of the public believes that routine vaccination are safe and effective. However, there is growing opposition to state and school vaccine requirements from caregivers who believe these mandates infringe on their rights. To encourage more support for routine childhood vaccinations:

- Emphasize the individual health benefits of routine childhood vaccines, such as: preventing severe illnesses and hospitalization; not missing out on social gatherings with friends and family; being able to participate in extracurricular activities; and not missing school because they are sick.
- Avoid citing mandates or policies as the primary reason why a child should get vaccinated.

For more information please visit the [Public Health Collaborative](#) webpage.

Announcements:

Ventura County Public Health’s Immunization Program will be hosting free Tdap events open to the public on the following dates:

- Friday, May 17, at Madea Creek Middle School from 2:45– 4:15PM
1002 Doubletree Rd, Oak Park, CA 91377
- Wednesday, August 14, at E.O Green Jr High from 1:00-5:00PM
3739 South C Street, Oxnard, CA 93033
- Please join the Immunization Program for our **Immunization skills Institute 2024 on Wednesday, May 15th**. This training will be available online for any clinical staff involved in vaccine administration, and will also be recorded for those who cannot attend live. Please click [here](#) for more information.
- May is **National Nurses Appreciation Week!** Make sure to give a big thank you to all your nurses!

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We are on the web!

<https://vchca.org/immunization-program>

or follow us on

