





# **Monthly Immunization Update**

## January 2025

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!

### Cervical Cancer Awareness Month

January is Cervical Cancer Awareness Month, an ideal chance for WHO (World Health Organization) and partners to raise awareness of cervical cancer and vaccination against human papillomavirus (HPV), the main cause of cervical cancer. Together, we can strive to end cervical cancer within a few generations.

This year, Cervical Cancer Awareness Month aims to highlight the importance of increasing access to HPV vaccines, regular screening, and state-of-the-art treatment for cervical cancer in its early stages. When diagnosed early and managed effectively, cervical cancer is one of the most successfully treatable forms of cancer. But caught too late, the outcomes are not nearly as good. The good news is that cervical cancer can be easily prevented through vaccination against HPV and regular screening.

To all girls and women, the messages of Cervical Cancer Awareness Month are clear:



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# 2025 Recertification for VFC, 317, VFA

Annual Recertification and Training is a Federal Requirement to maintain active status in the VFC Program and receive publicly purchased vaccines. All public and private must recertify their enrollment yearly. New providers that enrolled prior to December 2024 will also be expected to complete 2025 VFC Recertification.

Not completing the 2025 VFC recertification process will result in suspension of vaccine ordering privileges and eventual account termination from the VFC Program. As 2025 recertification is coming please start planning and preparing now. Providers will have until Friday, February 14, 2025 to complete the process.

For more information please visit the EZIZ webpage.

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# Ways to Boost Vaccination Rates

Implement these practical and proven strategies and increase your HPV vaccination rates.

### Bundle your recommendation

Bundle your recommendation for all adolescent vaccines, including HPV vaccine, in the same way, on the same day. You can start the vaccine discussion with, "Now that your child is 11, they need three vaccines to help protect against meningitis, HPV cancers, and whooping cough. We'll give these shots during today's visit. Do you have any questions about these vaccines?"

### Ensure a consistent message

Your office staff should receive training on how to successfully communicate with parents and patients about HPV vaccination. Starting with the front office, make sure that everyone is on the same page when it comes to proper vaccination practices, recommendations, and how to answer parents' questions.

### Use every opportunity to vaccinate

Establish a policy to check patients' immunization status at every visit and always recommend and administer vaccines your patients need. Call to remind families about getting vaccines if they fall behind or need follow-up doses to complete the series. Develop a process where all clinicians in your practice compare HPV vaccination rates to rates of meningococcal and Tdap vaccination.



### Effectively answer questions

Learn how to answer some of parents' most common questions about HPV vaccination. Be prepared to answer parents' questions succinctly, accurately, and empathetically by using terms that they understand. A parent will often accept your explanations if presented with their children's best interests in mind.

For more information please visit the <u>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</u> webpage.

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We are on the web!

https://vchca.org/immunization-program

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