

# MAINE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM UPDATE DECEMBER 2015



Maine Center for Disease  
Control and Prevention  
An Office of the  
Department of Health and Human Services

Paul R. LePage, Governor

Mary C. Mayhew, Commissioner

## National Influenza Vaccination Week

National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW) is a national observance that was established to highlight the importance of continuing influenza

vaccination. NIVW 2015 was observed **December 6-12, 2015.**



In the United States, flu activity is *usually* highest between December and February and can last as late as May. With family and friends gathering for the holidays, now is a great time to promote vaccination to patients. The Maine Immunization Program still has vaccine available at the distribution center that can be utilized for any children that have not been immunized. Providers may also want to consider using the reminder/recall system for all children associated in their practice to encourage vaccination.

For NIVW key talking points, materials, media toolkits, etc. please visit: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/nivw/>

## Vaccine Updates

The Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices recently updated the recommendations regarding the interval between PCV13 followed by PPSV23 from 6–12 months to  $\geq 1$  year for immunocompetent adults aged  $\geq 65$  years.

For guidance on this update please see the following handouts:

[Pneumococcal Vaccination Recommendations for Children and Adults by Age and/or Risk Factor](#)

[Pneumococcal Vaccines: CDC Answers Your Questions](#)

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/immunization/providers/manual/Adult-pneumococcal-guidance.pdf> \*

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/immunization/providers/manual/Adult-pneumococcal-guidance-2.pdf> \*

\* Included in the “Adult Immunization Schedule” section of the Provider Reference Manual.

## Meningococcal B Vaccine

Trumenba and Bexsero Meningococcal B vaccines are now available on ImmPact for providers to order.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recently recommended that clinicians may choose to administer serogroup B meningococcal vaccine to children 10 through 18 years at increased risk for meningococcal

disease attributable to serogroup B, including:

- Children who have persistent complement component deficiencies
  - Children taking a drug called eculizumab (also called Soliris®)
  - Children who have anatomic or functional asplenia, including sickle cell disease
  - Children identified to be at increased risk because of a meningococcal disease outbreak attributable to serogroup B
- Children aged 16 through 18 years without high risk conditions may also be vaccinated.

## Maine Hospitals Honored for Hepatitis B Vaccination

On July 16, 2013, the Immunization Action Coalition (IAC) launched the Hepatitis B Birth Dose Honor Roll. The Honor Roll recognizes hospitals and birthing centers that have achieved over 90% coverage rates for administering hepatitis B vaccine at birth and have written policies and procedures to protect babies from hepatitis B infection. At this time, 217 birthing facilities nationwide have been accepted into the Honor Roll, 13 of these are Maine Hospitals.

The Maine Immunization Program would like to thank and congratulate the staff of the following Maine birthing facilities for their exceptional efforts to protect infants from hepatitis B transmission.

Bridgton Hospital  
Calais Regional Hospital  
Down East Community Hospital  
Houlton Regional Hospital  
Inland Hospital  
Maine General Medical Center  
Northern Maine Medical Center  
Penobscot Valley Hospital  
Redington Fairview General Hospital  
Rumford Hospital  
Southern Maine Health Care  
Stephens Memorial Hospital  
York Hospital

For more information about the IAC's Hepatitis B Birth Dose Honor Roll, please contact the Maine Perinatal Hepatitis B Coordinator, Jessica Demers, at 207-287-7087.

**If you have any questions,  
please contact the Maine Immunization Program at:  
(207) 287-3746 or (800) 867-4775  
[www.ImmunizeME.org](http://www.ImmunizeME.org)**

