

MAINE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM UPDATE MARCH 2017



Not Too Late to Vaccinate Against the Flu!

It is in full swing, but it is not too late to get your patients vaccinated. This is particularly important for patients who may have underlying health conditions that put them at risk of developing complications such as pneumonia and may require hospitalization.

In Maine's Weekly Flu Surveillance Report for the week ending February 25, there have been:

- 10 new hospitalizations reported
- 1 new outbreak reported

www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/flu/influenza-surveillance-weekly-updates.shtml

H3N2 viruses continue to predominate. Federal health agencies recommend an annual flu vaccination for everyone 6 months of age and older. Anyone who has not been vaccinated this season should get it now.

Immunization Schedule for Children and Adolescents Aged 18 Years or Younger

The immunization schedule for children and adolescents 18 years of age or younger has been updated.

Use the following link to get the most current additions:

www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz/downloads/pdf/child-adolescent.html



HPV 2-Dose Recommendation published in Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

The new 2-dose schedule for Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination has been published in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR). The Maine Immunization Program recommends that providers start implementing the new schedule starting on 3/1/17.

HPV 2-dose recommendation:

For persons initiating vaccination before their 13th birthday, the recommended immunization schedule consists of two doses of HPV vaccine. The second dose should be administered 6–12 months after the first dose (the 0-6 month schedule).

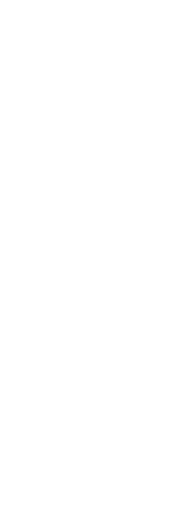
For more information: <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6549a5.htm>

You Call the Shots Training Modules

In order to receive credit for completing the You Call the Shots online modules, please fax the **Certificate of Completion** or **Verification Code** and **Certificate of Completion** to 207-287-8127 or email to Celeste Poulin at: celeste.poulin@maine.gov.

Please be sure to also include your PIN number on any paperwork that is sent to us.

For instructions on completing the modules, please visit: <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/immunization/providers/communications/2017/Clarification-on-Continuing-Education-Requirement.pdf>



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75% of pregnant women protect their babies against the flu. Time to bump it up!



Flu shots help protect pregnant women and their babies from potentially serious illness during and after pregnancy.

During the 2015-16 flu season, an estimated 50% of pregnant women in the U.S. protected themselves and their babies from flu by getting a flu shot.

Getting a flu shot is the first and most important step in protecting against flu. The flu shot given during pregnancy is shown to protect both the mother and her baby for several months after birth from flu.

For more information: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/immunization/pregnant.htm>

Download the factsheet: https://www.cdc.gov/flu/pdf/freeresources/pregnant/pregnant_factsheet.pdf

LogTag Data Logger Instructions

The LogTag now has new instructions for downloading the LogTag software from their website. The upcoming LogTag Software Solutions will be available on the website (www.logtaggers.com) and will include new instructions and a new instructional video. Please contact us for more information.



The new instructions have been added to our website and can be accessed at the following link: http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectiousdisease/immunization/providers/documents/LogTag_Setup_100215.pdf

Dorm Style Refrigeration Units

The use of dorm-style refrigeration units to store vaccines is NEVER acceptable under any circumstances.

These units have been shown to pose a significant risk of freezing vaccines, even when used for temporary storage.

Any dormitory style unit discovered will result in the vaccine being removed and quarantined; the site will have to pay to replace that vaccine.

UNACCEPTABLE UNIT WITH FREEZER COMPARTMENT



ACCEPTABLE FOR STORAGE OF VFC VACCINE



For more information on our policy please visit <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectiousdisease/immunization/program-policies/index.html>

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