



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

Paul R. LePage, Governor

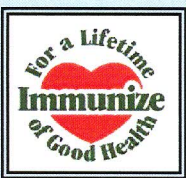
Mary C. Mayhew, Commissioner

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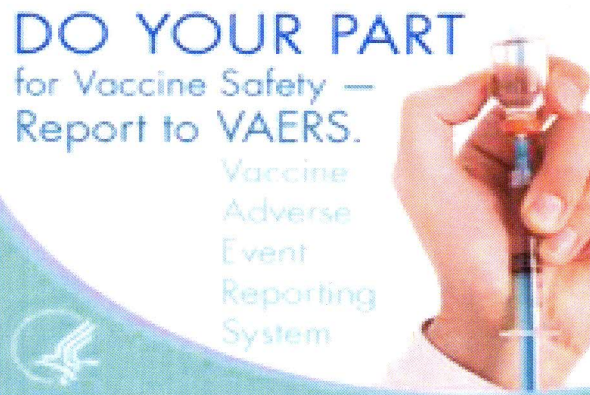
Maine Immunization Program

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VAERS FAQs Vaccine Adverse Reporting System



What is VAERS?

The **Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS)** is a national vaccine safety surveillance program co-sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). VAERS collects and analyzes information from reports of adverse events (possible side effects) following vaccination.

VAERS data are monitored to:

- Detect new, unusual, or rare vaccine adverse events
- Monitor increases in known adverse events
- Identify potential patient risk factors for particular types of adverse events
- Identify vaccine lots with increased numbers or types of reported adverse events
- Assess the safety of newly licensed vaccines

Who reports to VAERS?

Anyone can file a VAERS report, including health care providers, manufacturers and vaccine recipients.

Are VAERS reports kept confidential?

VAERS is required to meet the highest of Government security standards for using confidential patient medical records. Individual names are removed from all reports that are posted on the website.

November 2012 Volume 1, Issue 2

Why should I report to VAERS?

By reporting any adverse events associated with a vaccine, the CDC and FDA are able to evaluate the safety of the vaccine, ensure safe strategies of vaccine use, and help to further reduce the rare risks associated with vaccines.

Are all adverse events reported to VAERS caused by vaccines?

No. VAERS receives reports of many adverse events that occur after vaccination. Some occur coincidentally following vaccination, while others may be caused by vaccination. Studies help determine if a vaccine really caused an adverse event.

How do I report to VAERS?

You can submit reports online or on a paper VAERS report form. You can obtain pre-addressed postage-paid report forms via fax, mail, or e-mail by calling VAERS (800) 822-7967.

Completed VAERS forms may be faxed to (877) 721-0366 or mailed :

VAERS
PO Box 1100
Rockville, MD 20849

Which adverse events should be reported?

Any adverse event occurring after the administration of any vaccine should be reported. (The National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act (NCVIA) requires health care providers to report:

- Any adverse event listed by the vaccine manufacturer as a contraindication to further doses of the vaccine.
- Any adverse event listed in the VAERS Table of Reportable Events Following Vaccination that occurs within the specified time period after vaccination.)

If you have any questions, please contact the Maine Immunization Program at:
Phone (207) 287-3746 or (800) 867-4775. For more information on VAERS, visit the website:
<http://vaers.hhs.gov/index>

CONGRATULATIONS!

Forty-seven (47) practices have achieved an up-to-date (UTD) rate of **at least 90%** for the 2012 fourth quarter assessment of children 24-35 months of age in their practice following the 4DTaP, 3Polio, 1MMR, 3 HIB, 3 HepB, 1 Var, 4PCV immunization series. That speaks highly of how well office staff have worked together to reach this goal. Congratulations on your continued efforts to increase immunization coverage in the State of Maine!

Provider Name	UTD Rate	Provider Name	UTD Rate
ACADIA FAMILY HEALTH CENTER	100%	SCOTT M CHASE DO	100%
ARNOLD MEMORIAL MEDICAL CTR PA	100%	SEARSPORT HEALTH CENTER	100%
BREWER HEALTH CENTER	100%	SEBASTICOOK FAMILY DOCTORS - PITTSFIELD	100%
BUCKSPORT FAMILY MEDICINE	100%	SMMC PRIMECARE PHYSICIAN SERVICES ROUTEONE	100%
D.F.D. RUSSELL MEDICAL CENTER	100%	ST JOHN VALLEY HEALTH CENTER	100%
D.F.D. RUSSELL MEDICAL CENTER-LEEDS	100%	STOCKTON SPRINGS REGIONAL HC	100%
DEXTER FAMILY PRACTICE	100%	TWIN CITY FAMILY PRACTICE	100%
FAMILY PRACTICE & INTERNAL MEDICINE	100%	WATERVILLE FAMILY PRACTICE PA	100%
FISH RIVER RURAL HEALTH-EAGLE LAKE	100%	MAINE DARTMOUTH FAMILY PRACTICE	96%
FULL CIRCLE HEALTH CARE LLC	100%	LOVEJOY HEALTH CENTER	95%
HAMLIN PRIMARY CARE/BEN FISKE HLTH	100%	BRIDGETON PEDIATRICS	94%
HAN-MILLINOCKET PRIMARY CARE	100%	MECHANIC FALLS FAMILY PRACTICE CTR	94%
HARRINGTON FAMILY HEALTH CENTER	100%	AROOSTOOK PEDIATRICS	93%
HERMON FAMILY MEDICINE	100%	MARTINS POINT HEALTH CARE	93%
HORIZONS HEALTH SERVICES	100%	WALDOBORO FAMILY MEDICINE	93%
JEAN ANTONUCCI MD	100%	MILBRIDGE MEDICAL CENTER	92%
JUDY L WELCH MD	100%	WESTERN MAINE PEDIATRICS	92%
MICMAC SERVICE UNIT	100%	CALAIS REGIONAL MEDICAL SERVICES	91%
NEW HORIZONS MADISON	100%	D.F.D. RUSSELL MEDICAL CENTER - TURNER	91%
PASSAMAQUODDY HEALTH CENTER	100%	FAMILY MEDICINE INSTITUTE	90%
PINES HEALTH SERVICES - CARIBOU	100%	HOULTON PEDIATRICS	90%
RANGELEY FAMILY MEDICINE	100%	KATAHDIN VALLEY HEALTH - HOULTON	90%
REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	100%	KENNEBEC PEDIATRICS	90%
ROBERT M MERRILL MD	100%		

Successful immunization of clients involves the participation of everyone in a provider office. Quarterly, MIP will continue to acknowledge practices identified with **90% or greater** UTD rates. Congratulations again for all your hard work!



Dr. Sheila G. Pinette
Director, Maine CDC