



Important Program Updates & Reminders

Provider Reference Manuals have been updated! New manuals will be handed out during all VFC site visits. During site visits, Maine Immunization Program staff will be collecting your old manuals and trading them for updated ones. You may also visit our website to download the full updated manual online:

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/immunization/providers/manual/index.shtml>

Polio Catch-up schedule: Due to an increase in calls on the polio vaccinations, we are reiterating the schedule in this month's newsletter

Persons aged 4 months through 18 years

Minimum age for Dose 1: 6 weeks

Dose 1 to dose 2 : 4 weeks

Dose 2 to dose 3 : 4 weeks

Dose 3 to dose 4: 6 months* (minimum age 4 years for final dose)

* - If 4 or more doses are administered before 4 years, an additional dose should be administered at age 4 through 6 years and at least 6 months after the previous dose.

- A fourth dose is not necessary if the third dose was administered at age 4 years or older and at least 6 months after the previous dose.

- If both OPV and IPV were administered as part of a series, a total of 4 doses should be administered, regardless of the child's current age. IPV is not routinely recommended for U.S. residents aged 18 years or older.

Pediarix Schedule: We see many errors made with combination vaccines. Recently, we have seen many being made with the Pediarix vaccine. These labels, may help to cut down on errors made with giving vaccines incorrectly:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/storage/guide/vaccine-storage-labels.pdf>

Pediarix contains the vaccine components DTaP, IPV, and hepatitis B. The primary series is 3 doses (0.5 mL) given intramuscularly at 2, 4, and 6 months of age. It should not be given to infants younger than 6 weeks of age nor to children 7 years or older.

Multiple Vaccines (DTaP, IPV, Hib, PCV, Hepatitis B, and Rotavirus) (11/16/12) This VIS has been temporarily removed from the CDC website while it is being revised. It should be available again by mid-2014. Please use the separate VISs in the meantime until the updated VIS has been posted.

Understanding and Preparing for Your Next Site Visit

Maine Immunization Providers may receive up to four different site visits throughout the year. These visits include: VFC (Vaccines for Children) Enrollment Visit, VFC Provider Compliance Site Visit, AFIX Visit, and Unannounced Storage and Handling Visit. In order to be fully prepared and to ensure that you are following the appropriate VFC guidelines, the Maine Immunization Program has included important information on each site visit in this month's newsletter.

VFC Enrollment Visit: Initial visit to ensure provider understands all program requirements and demonstrates capacity to manage vaccines appropriately.

VFC Compliance Visit: Visit performed using the VFC Compliance Questionnaire to ensure provider understands program requirements and to provide education and follow-up as required.

AFIX Visit:

What does AFIX stand for?

Assessment of the healthcare provider's vaccination coverage levels and immunization practices.

Feedback of results to the provider along with recommended strategies to improve processes, immunization practices, and coverage levels.

Incentives to recognize and reward improved performance.

eXchange of healthcare information and resources necessary to facilitate improvement.

What is the purpose of an AFIX Visit?

The purpose of AFIX is to assist and support health care personnel by identifying low immunization rates, opportunities for improving immunization delivery practices, and ensuring that providers are;

1. Aware of and knowledgeable about their immunization rates and missed opportunities to vaccinate.
2. Motivated to incorporate changes to their current practices.
3. Ready to try new immunization service strategies.
4. Capable of sustaining these new behaviors.

Unannounced Storage & Handling Visit: Unscheduled visit to assess storage and handling practices.

ImmPact Reminders

The ImmPact Registry is intended for professional use only by provider staff for provider patients. Any unauthorized, or inappropriate (not in keeping with stated policies or regulations), use or disclosure of information from the Immunization Information System without the express consent of the individual to which it pertains constitutes a breach of confidentiality and a violation of this policy which may result in penalties under State and Federal law.

<http://oit-isa1asphigd/i2quiz/confidentiality>

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/immunization/family/documents/maine-iis-rules.doc>

Polio Schedule -

Due to system behavior, ImmPact may incorrectly recommend a dose of polio and then call it “Not Valid” when entered into the client record. This will only affect clients who are on a “catch-up schedule”. The catch-up doses based on age are not figured in until the dose is entered. If in doubt, enter the dose historically before administering.

LogTag Data Logger Customer Support Line

Control Solutions (manufacturer of the LogTag Data Logger) has a free customer support line available for providers to call directly for assistance and troubleshooting should you need assistance that the Maine Immunization Program is unable to provide. The number is **888-311-0636**.

DID YOU KNOW?

About 79 million Americans are currently infected with HPV. About 14 million people become newly infected each year. HPV is so common that most sexually-active men and women will get at least one type of HPV at some point in their lives.

Each year, about 21,000 of HPV-related cancers could be prevented by getting the HPV vaccine.

<http://www.cdc.gov/std/HPV/STDFact-HPV.htm>

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

