

Vaccine Preventable Disease Control Program

ph.lacounty.gov/vaccines



The Latest Immunization Updates & Announcements.

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Quarterly Vaccine Provider Newsletter

As a valued member of our Vaccine Provider Network, we appreciate your continued commitment to protecting public health through immunization. Together, we can raise awareness, support one another, and encourage community members to talk with trusted messengers about staying up to date on their vaccinations.

This newsletter aims to keep our partners informed and prepared and includes important immunization updates and resources for all vaccine partners/providers.



California Assembly Bill 144

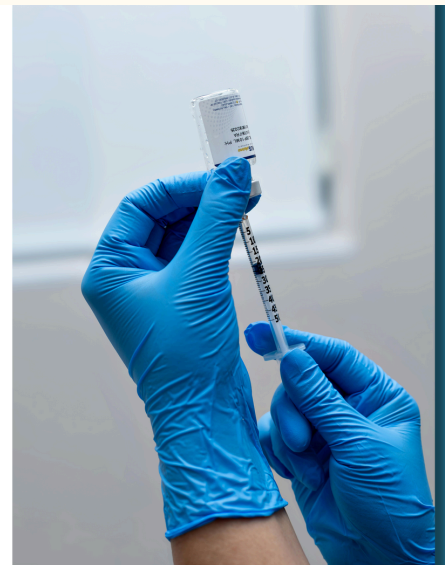


Assembly Bill 144 has been signed into Law.

- California Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill (AB) 144 on September 17, 2025, which shifts from the State's reliance on CDC's Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices (ACIP) to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) for setting vaccine recommendations.
- CDPH vaccine recommendations are informed by recommendations by professional medical and scientifically based organizations.
- This law allows a broader scope of practice for vaccine administrations, enabling pharmacists, podiatrists, dentists and optometrists to prescribe and administer vaccines recommended by CDPH.

How does this affect vaccinations in CA?

- CDPH vaccine recommendations must be [covered by CA Health Plans](#), including [Medi-Cal managed care plans](#). This means that if CDPH recommends a vaccine, it will be covered by insurance plans even if it is not recommended by ACIP.
- Provides liability protection to providers who administer vaccines based on CDPH recommendations.
- A pharmacist may independently initiate and administer immunizations recommended by CDPH.






CDPH Vaccine Recommendations for 2025-2026 Respiratory Virus Season

All Californians who choose protection are recommended to receive updated COVID-19 vaccines.

CDPH vaccine recommendations were released in collaboration with the [West Coast Health Alliance](#) (WCHA) partners Oregon, Washington and Hawaii and informed by national medical organizations including: [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) (AAP), [American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists](#) (ACOG), and [American Academy of Family Physicians](#) (AAFP).

Summary of Vaccine Recommendations:

Age/Condition	COVID-19	Influenza	RSV
Children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All 6-23 months• All 2-18 years with risk factors or never vaccinated against COVID-19• All who are in close contact with others with risk factors¹• All who choose protection¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All 6 months and older	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All younger than 8 months²• All 8-19 months with risk factors
Pregnancy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All who are planning pregnancy, pregnant, postpartum or lactating	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All who are planning pregnancy, pregnant, postpartum or lactating	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 32-36 weeks gestational age²
Adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All 65 years and older• All younger than 65 years with risk factors• All who are in close contact with others with risk factors• All who choose protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All 75 years and older• All 50-74 years with risk factors

1. COVID-19 vaccine is available for persons 6 months and older.
2. Protect infants with either prenatal RSV vaccine or infant dose of nirsevimab or clesrovimab.

- [Printable PDF](#) of recommendations
- [COVID-19 risk factors](#) defined by CDPH
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Timing](#) schedule

Summary of ACIP Meeting September 18-19, 2025

In June 2025, HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. dismissed all 17 standing members of the ACIP citing concerns about potential conflicts of interest, although some reports had previously found no evidence of such issues. New members were appointed, including individuals who have publicly questioned aspects of vaccine policy. The changes at ACIP coincided with broader leadership shifts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), including the dismissal of CDC Director and the resignation of several senior CDC officials, some of whom expressed concerns about the agency's direction and the role of politics in public health decisions. Despite calls to delay, the reconstituted ACIP convened on September 18–19 to review vaccine recommendations for MMRV, Hepatitis B, and COVID-19. A summary of ACIP recommendations and votes is below.

Importantly, these recommendations do not become federal policy guidance until the acting CDC Director signs a decision memo. This has not occurred to date.

MMRV

- ACIP recommends separating MMR and Varicella vaccine for all children under 4 years of age. The combined MMRV vaccine is no longer recommended for children under age 4 years but can be used for those 4-12 years of age.

Hepatitis B Vaccine

- ACIP recommends that providers test all pregnant women for hepatitis B.
- The planned vote to change the pediatric vaccine schedule, including removing recommendation for hepatitis B birth dose given at 0 months, was tabled for future discussion.

Continued on next page

Continued: Summary of ACIP Meeting September 18-19, 2025

COVID-19 Vaccine

- Updates to [COVID-19 Epidemiology](#) and [Vaccine Effectiveness](#), Estimated [Vaccine Coverage](#), [Safety Uncertainties](#) of mRNA COVID Vaccines, [Genomics of Vaccine-Induced Myocarditis](#), and COVID-19 [Discussion Framing](#) were discussed.
- Recommendation framework: ACIP voted to endorse a model of individual decision making based on shared clinical decision-making between a patient and their healthcare provider. People aged 65 and older should receive vaccination based on [individual-based decision making](#), and people aged 6 months to 64 years should receive vaccination based on individual-based decision making with emphasis on risks/benefits discussion.
- Vote on prescription requirement: ACIP voted against a requirement for a physician's prescription for the administration of COVID-19 vaccines.
- Votes on vaccine risks and benefits communication: ACIP voted for CDC to update language about potential risk and benefits. Additionally, they voted for healthcare providers to communicate risk and benefits at the individual-level.

ACIP Meeting Slides may be found [here](#).

Meeting minutes will be available [here](#) within 90-120 days of meeting.

What does this mean for you:

If ACIP recommendations are approved by the Acting CDC Director:

- MMRV will be removed from the vaccine schedule for children under the age of 4.
- COVID-19 vaccines will remain covered across private health plans, Medicaid, CHIP, and Medicare—there will be no cost-sharing for all individuals aged 6 months and older.
- COVID-19 vaccines will remain available for eligible patients through the Vaccines for Children program.
- Healthcare providers can continue to provide COVID-19 vaccine without a need for prescription.

Prepare Now for Respiratory Virus Season

Healthcare providers are trusted messengers that can highlight the importance of routine and seasonal immunization. With respiratory virus season approaching—now is the time to plan and ensure your practice is ready to protect patients against influenza, COVID-19, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). Order and maintain adequate stock of seasonal vaccines and immunizations. Together, we can reduce the burden of respiratory illness this upcoming season.

Below are the Los Angeles County dashboards for respiratory illness surveillance, as well as flu and COVID-19 vaccine administration. Subscribe to [RespWatch](#) to receive weekly reports and stay up to date on respiratory illness trends this season!

Related Respiratory Resources:

- [LACDPH Respiratory Illness Surveillance \(RespWatch\)](#)
- [LACDPH Flu Vaccine Dashboard](#)
- [LACDPH COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard](#)



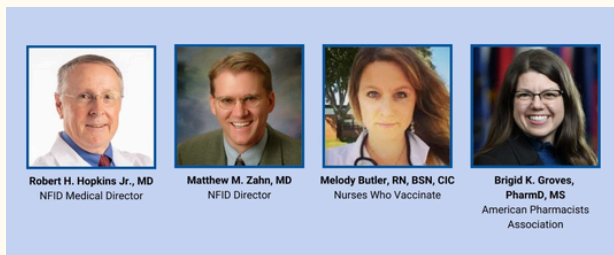
Upcoming Webinar: 2025-2026 US Respiratory Season Updates

Wednesday, October 8, 2025

1:30 – 3:00PM ET

Join NFID for a CME webinar on 2025-2026 US Respiratory Season Updates, including strategies to increase immunization rates.

[Click here to register](#)



Vaccine Program Management

PowerPoint Presentation: [Recording Returns and Waste](#)

COVID-19 Vaccines

- Any doses of unused 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccines for those 6 months through 11 yrs can be returned through the online return form in myCAvax. Please select "Spoiled" for the return reason.
- Providers must report all waste in myCAvax upon expiration of doses ([Recording waste job aid](#) – log in required. Alternatively, job aid is linked above).

CA Bridge Access Program (BAP) Closeout

- Participating providers must report BAP waste in myCAvax upon expiration of doses ([Recording waste job aid](#)).
- Navigate to the myCAvax dashboard from the home page and pull BAP reports. Once program closeout is completed, you will not be able to access this historical data.
- BAP funding will no longer be available for the upcoming Federal Fiscal Year. COVID-19 vaccine will be available to LHD-317 Providers for use on uninsured/underinsured adults for the 2025-2026 season.

State General Fund (SGF) Flu

- SGF flu ordering is now open.
- Review the program participation email from vaccinereq@ph.lacounty.gov sent to Primary and Back-up Vaccine Coordinators on Tuesday, August 19, 2025.
- To be approved for ordering, providers who are not active in the VFC, VFA, or LHD 317 Programs will need to submit additional documentation for their storage units. Providers who meet this criterion have been contacted by vaccinereq@ph.lacounty.gov with more information.

Vaccines For Adults (VFA)

- VFA Ordering Window is open from Monday, September 15 to Monday, October 6.

CDPH Immunization Branch Updates

- If you are not currently on the CDPH Immunization Branch distribution list and would like to be added, [register here](#).
- Monthly CDPH Immunization Updates for Providers Webinar: [Register](#) for the next session: Friday, October 24, 2025, 9:00 am – 10:30 am (PT).

California Immunization Registry (CAIR) Reminders

- An important reminder to report all immunizations administered into the California Immunization Registry (CAIR) as required by state law AB 1797. The quality and integrity of CAIR data depend on your reporting of every immunization without exception. If you have any questions, please review [How CAIR Helps Your Practice \(PDF\)](#) and the FAQ section on [AB 1797: California's requirement to enter all vaccine administrations into CAIR](#).
- For additional information regarding how to enroll in or report to CAIR, please contact LACIPinfo@ph.lacounty.gov.



Image Source: CDPH

Pediatric & Prenatal Updates

Upcoming Webinar: Prenatal Immunization Information Session for Healthcare Providers

Thursday, October 2, 2025, 12:00 – 1:00PM PT

Join us for a **Prenatal Immunization Information Session for Healthcare Providers** to discuss prenatal vaccine recommendations and best practices to increase vaccine uptake. The session will feature vaccine champion, Dr. Oluwatosin “Tosin” Goje, MD, MSCR, Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology (OB/GYN) and Reproductive Biology at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine. She is a board-certified OB/GYN and infectious diseases specialist, serving as the Medical Director of the Cleveland Clinic Center for Infant and Maternal Health. [See flyer for more information.](#)

Prenatal Immunization Information Session for Healthcare Providers
OCTOBER 2, 2025 | 12:00-1:00PM PT

This activity is for healthcare providers and multidisciplinary teams caring for prenatal populations.

After completion of this activity, participants will feel more confident in their ability to:

- Recommend and administer recommended prenatal vaccines in accordance with the latest guidelines.
- Demonstrate understanding of various reasons for vaccine hesitancy.
- Apply evidence-based strategies to increase vaccine uptake.

Guest Speaker

The session will feature vaccine champion, Dr. Oluwatosin “Tosin” Goje, MD, MSCR, Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology (OB/GYN) and Reproductive Biology at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine. She is a board-certified OB/GYN and infectious diseases specialist, serving as the Medical Director of the Cleveland Clinic Center for Infant and Maternal Health.

CEU credits for nurses available.

Disclosure:
Provider approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing.
Provider Number 11858 for 1.0 contact hour.

REGISTRATION LINK OR SCAN QR CODE

For more information or questions please contact: jmartinez@ph.lacounty.gov.

Seal of the County of Los Angeles Public Health

[Click here to register](#)

Education Sector Updates and Reminders

Annual Immunization Assessment Reporting Portal is Open for Schools and Childcare Facilities

Mandatory immunization assessment reports for schools and childcare facilities must be submitted via [CAIR-Hub](#) (formerly known as Shots for School) by December 5, 2025. Annual assessment and reporting is required by law ([California Health and Safety Code, Sections 120325-120375](#)) in California for children in pre-k, kindergarten, and seventh grade.

Medical Exemptions for Required Immunizations

If a provider determines that a child needs a medical exemption from an immunization required for school entry, parents/guardians may create an account in [CAIR-ME](#) and apply for an exemption. They will receive an exemption application number to give to their child's physician. The physician (who must be licensed in California) may register for an account in CAIR-ME and log in to issue the medical exemption. Once the medical exemption is issued, the physician prints the form and provides a copy to the family to give to their child's school or childcare facility. For more details on this process, see [IMM-1466](#) Obtaining a Medical Exemption: Guide for Parents and Physicians.

Homeopathic Vaccines do NOT meet CA School Entry Law Requirements

Nosodes, homeoprophylaxis vaccines, or homeopathic vaccines do NOT meet the immunization requirements for attendance in California schools and childcare facilities. For more guidance on this topic, please see [California Code of Regulations, Title 17, section 6000 \(m\)](#).

Transcribing Records in CAIR

Unfortunately, we have recently learned that several records falsified by parents/guardians and/or including doses for "homeopathic" vaccines have been entered into CAIR. Before transcribing vaccine records into CAIR, it is recommended that clinic staff contact the administering provider office to confirm the doses, particularly if the original record provided by parents/guardians is limited in detail (e.g., no lot numbers, minimal provider information, etc.).

Strategies to Promote Vaccines

1

Speak with your patients.

Offer and recommend vaccines as part of routine care. If patients or parents have questions, listen and provide reassurance. Leave the door open to revisit the conversation later, should they decide not to get vaccinated during that visit.

2

Post on Social Media.

Learn about [Emily's heart-breaking story of her daughter and RSV](#) and share her important message on social media. See social media toolkits below for ready-to-use graphics and suggested messaging.

3

Print and Post Resources.

Print and distribute educational materials. See resources below for a variety of brochures, flyers, infographics, and more printer-friendly resources (available in multiple languages).

Social Media and Print Resources:

- [Vax Teens LA Social Media Toolkit](#) (LA County DPH)
- [Association of Immunization Managers Toolkits](#) (AIM)
- [Maternal Immunization Social Media Toolkit](#) (ACOG)
- [From Wild to Mild: The Power of Flu Vaccination](#) (NFID)
- [Respiratory Virus Prevention Resources](#) (CDPH)
- [Healthy Pregnancy Resources](#) (CDPH)

Resources & Upcoming Events

LA County DPH: Vaccine Provider Information Hub

The webpage hub includes resources, including reporting tools, treatment guidance, vaccine recommendations, B73 manuals, data dashboards, and disease-specific webpages. Additional resources include upcoming webinars, newsletters, and direct contact details for program support.

Click here or visit
ph.lacounty.gov/providers

LA County DPH: Monthly Vaccine Provider Office Hours

First Wednesday of each month

9:00–10:00am PT

Monthly Office Hours provide vaccine providers and immunization partners with timely updates on immunizations. Each session covers rotating topics relevant to Los Angeles County, offering guidance, resources, and opportunities for discussion with VPDCP staff.

Register Here

Immunization Coalition of Los Angeles County (ICLAC): Fall Forum 2025

Thursday, October 30, 2025

10:00am–2:00pm PT

The annual ICLAC Fall Vaccine Forum will be held at the California Endowment from 10:00am–2:00pm PT. See [flyer](#) for additional information and registration details.

Click here for Flyer

CDPH Provider Office Hours

Friday, October 24, 2025

9:00–10:30am PT

Register today for the monthly webinar series using the NEW Zoom registration link.

The new provider monthly webinar series sessions will begin next month.

Register Here



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30TH
10AM-2PM PST

The Fall Vaccine Forum will focus on preparation for respiratory virus season, including policy updates at the federal level, strategies for community trust/access, and awareness of emerging diseases.

A portrait of a man with a mustache and glasses, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and a patterned tie. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a solid blue color.

VIRTUALLY



ICLACFALLFORUMONLINE.EVENTBRITE.COM

2025 Free Flu Vaccine Clinics

Free flu vaccines for ages 6 months and older. Children ages 6 months to 8 years receiving their first flu vaccine may require a second dose this flu season.

To find an appointment:

Visit myturn.ca.gov, follow the prompts and enter a zip code to locate any clinic below.

Note: Although not required, please bring some form of identification. Children under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. The flu vaccine nasal spray will not be offered.

Date	Time	Location
Sunday, September 14	9 a.m.–1 p.m.	St. Thomas the Apostle Hollywood 7501 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90046
Thursday, September 18	7:30–10 a.m.	Hope on Union–United University Church 2208 S. Union Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90007
Monday, September 22	10 a.m.–1 p.m.	Roxbury Park Community Center 471 S. Roxbury Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90212
Sunday, September 28	11 a.m.–1 p.m.	88th St. Temple Church of God 8825 S. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90044
Wednesday, October 1	9–noon	Immanuel Presbyterian Church 3300 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90010
Sunday, October 5	9–noon	Cedars-Sinai Spielberg Lot 8723 Alden Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90048
Thursday, October 9	11:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.	Plummer Park Community Center 7377 Santa Monica Blvd., W. Hollywood, CA 90046
Sunday, October 19	11a.m.–2 p.m.	St. Basil Church 3611 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90005
Saturday, October 25	7 a.m.–noon	Earvin "Magic" Johnson Recreation Area 1050 E. 120th St. Los Angeles, CA 90059
Sunday, November 9	9–11 a.m.	Young Israel of Century City 9317 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90035
Monday, November 17	11:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.	Santa Monica Family YMCA 1332 6th St., Santa Monica, CA 90401

Appointments recommended. Walk-ups welcomed.