

Monthly Immunization Update

June 2025

Dear Providers and Partners,

The purpose of this newsletter is to deliver quick and meaningful updates to support our providers in a variety of vaccine settings and, maintain our connection with all of you. We welcome your questions and comments. Please feel free to share this newsletter with your colleagues. Thank you!

Your patients are going places: help them have a healthy trip abroad.

Many travelers don't seek health advice when they're planning international trips, even though their travel may put them at risk for preventable illnesses. Include travel questions in the routine history you gather from patients to assess possible risks and identify opportunities for patient vaccination, medication, and education.

- Ask about underlying conditions, allergies, and medications.
- Ask about special conditions, such as pregnancy, immunocompromising conditions, history of heart disease or stroke, and recent surgery.
- Ask about immunization history.
- Ask about prior international travel.
- Get trip details, such as destination, trip length, and reason for travel.
- Ask about travel style, such as traveling alone or with a group, staying at a hotel or with a host family, and modes of transportation

Get your patients travel ready.

Go to <u>cdc.gov/travel</u> to get the CDC resources you need to help them prepare.

<u>CDC Yellow Book</u>US government's most current health guidelines and information for international travel.

<u>Pre-travel PREP Tool</u>Free clinical tool works like an interactive, continuously updated CDC Yellow Book.

Plus, you'll find destination-specific updates and tips, travel fact sheets, and more.



Inside this issue:

Your patients are 1 going places: help them have a healthy trip abroad





Educate the Par- 2 ent or Patient

National Men's Health Week

<u>National Men's Health Week</u> is June 9th-15th. This annual observance encourages men of all ages to prioritize their health, seek preventative care including <u>recommended vaccines</u>, and talk about important health issues. Men generally die earlier, become ill at a younger age, and develop more chronic illnesses than women. Men are <u>up to 50% less likely</u> to seek medical attention than women. <u>According to CDC</u>, nearly 14% of men age 18 years and older are in fair or poor health.

An important way to reduce health disparities is to encourage men to get up to date with vaccination according to CDC's <u>Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule</u>. <u>Table 1</u> shows vaccinations needed based on age. <u>Table 2</u> shows vaccinations needed by health status or other indication. Some men may need additional vaccines based on their occupation. <u>CDC resources on Traveler's Health</u> address vaccines needed for international travel. See Immunize.org's handout <u>Vaccinations for Men Who Have Sex with Men</u> for more information about additional vaccines that are recommended for them, including mpox vaccine.

Educate the Parent or Patient

Healthcare personnel should be prepared to provide comprehensive vaccine information. Studies show:

- A strong recommendation from a health care provider is the most important factor in determining whether or not someone gets vaccinated.
- People want clear and consistent information about vaccines.

<u>Vaccine information statements</u> (VISs) are information sheets produced by CDC that explain the benefits and risks of a vaccine. <u>Federal law mandates</u> that a VIS must be given:

- To anyone receiving a vaccine or to the person's parent or caregiver
- Every time a dose of vaccine is administered, even if the patient has received that vaccine or VIS before
- Before administering the vaccine to allow time for questions

In addition, be sure to provide <u>after-care instructions</u>. These should include information on when to seek medical attention and strategies to decrease side effects such as injection site pain, fever, or fussiness.

Ventura County Public Health Immunization ProgramEmail:immunization.program@ventura.orgPhone:(805)981-5211Fax:(805)981-5210

We are on the web!

https://vchca.org/immunization-program

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