

# Monthly Immunization Update

April 2026

Dear Schools and partners ,

The purpose of this newsletter is to deliver quick and meaningful updates to support our schools and partners 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 all of your colleagues. Thank you !

## *National Public Health Week*

Each year during the first week of April , communities across the country join APHA in observing **National Public Health Week**. It’s a moment to celebrate the impact of public health and spotlight priority issues that can improve our nation’s well-being. Ready. Set. Action! is this year’s theme. As we celebrate, take a moment to recognize how public health has improved our daily lives, safeguard-ed our families, expanded our life spans, and strengthened our communities. This week is also a chance to honor the public health workers who show up for us every day — and to advocate for policies and practices that promote good health for all. For more information please visit the [American Public Health Association website](#).



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Adolescent Immunization Action Week (AIW) will be held April 6-10, 2026, to highlight the importance of vaccines for preteens and teens. Vaccines are a simple way to protect adolescents today and in their future. Careful and extensive research worldwide shows that vaccines are much safer than the diseases they target. Adolescent Immunization Action Week is our chance to ensure our schools have a strong defense against contagious diseases. Vaccines are essential in keeping our students healthy and reducing the spread of illnesses in our classrooms. Encourage families to book their child's doctor appointment early to beat the back-to-school rush and ensure everyone is protected. For more information, please click [here](#).

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## National Infant Immunization Week

National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) is a yearly observance held in April, highlighting the importance of protecting children two years and younger from vaccine-preventable diseases. CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommend that children stay on track with their well-child appointments and routine vaccinations. On-time vaccination is critical to provide protection against potentially life-threatening diseases. For more information click [here](#).



### Keep Measles Out of Your Center!

There are measles outbreaks in [California](#), in [the U.S.](#), and in [other parts of the world](#). Measles spreads easily and can be very serious, especially for people who are not protected by the vaccine. The measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine provides the best protection against measles and its complications.

Immunization requirements remain the same. This includes the requirement for children aged 15-17 months in child care to have 1 dose of MMR given on or after the 1<sup>st</sup> birthday. Given the threat of measles, try to check before the [required 15-17 month age checkpoint](#). If you find a child who is missing the MMR dose:

- Tell the parent/guardian. If the child is 12-14 months old, ask families to talk to their child's doctor about the MMR vaccine as soon as possible. Children 15 months or older are required to get the MMR vaccine within 30 days after turning 15 months old, or within 10 school days if they are overdue. Use the [Letter to Parents](#) (available in multiple languages on the ShotsforSchool.org [Implementation Tools](#) page).
- Let the parent/guardian know they must show their child's immunization record. Families can [request their child's digital vaccine record](#) and provide you a copy as proof. If you do not receive proof of immunization by the deadline, do not allow the child to attend child care until they get the required vaccine.

Remember to keep lists of children who do not have all required vaccines yet (exempt or conditionally admitted). This helps during an outbreak.

With upcoming spring and summer breaks, [remind traveling families to protect their children from measles](#). Children 6 months and older traveling internationally should get the MMR vaccine. Babies 6–11 months should get [1 dose of MMR before leaving](#). After that, they should get the routine 2-dose series: one dose at 12–15 months and another at 4–6 years of age.

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### You have the power to protect your child.

Provide your children with safe and long-lasting protection against measles by making sure they get the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine. Talk to your healthcare provider.

We are on the web!

<https://vchca.org/immunization-program>

or follow us on

