



# Monthly Immunization Update

May 2026

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!

## *Hepatitis Awareness Month*

May is Hepatitis Awareness Month. This observance serves as a time to raise awareness about hepatitis A, hepatitis B, and hepatitis C while encouraging testing, vaccination, and timely treatment. Viral hepatitis is a major public health threat and worse, hundreds of thousands of people in the United States don't know they are infected. Work with us to remind everyone that hepatitis A and hepatitis B can be prevented, and hepatitis C can be cured.

### **Why it's important?**

Hepatitis A and hepatitis B are vaccine preventable and hepatitis C can be cured.

### **Hepatitis A**

Hepatitis A infection usually causes a mild, short-term illness. Vaccination is the best way to prevent infection.

### **Hepatitis B and hepatitis C**

Most people with hepatitis B or hepatitis C do not look or feel sick. Getting tested is the only way to know if you have either virus and get treatment, which can prevent serious health problems including liver damage, liver cancer, and even death.

Although there is no cure for hepatitis B, treatments are available that can delay or reduce the risk of developing liver cancer.

There is currently no vaccine to prevent hepatitis C, but curative treatments are available. Most people with hepatitis C can be cured with just 8–12 weeks of well-tolerated oral-only treatment. Testing is the first step.

The purpose of Hepatitis Awareness Month is to educate health care practitioners and the public about the importance of vaccination against hepatitis A and hepatitis B and the importance of testing and treatment for hepatitis B and hepatitis C.

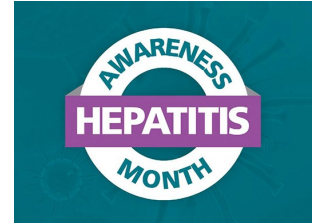
May 19th is [National Hepatitis Testing Day](#). The goal of National Hepatitis Testing Day is to help raise awareness about viral hepatitis and to encourage more individuals to learn

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their status. All adults aged 18 years and older are recommended to be screened at least once in their lifetimes for hepatitis B and hepatitis C.

For more information please visit the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](https://www.cdc.gov) website.



## National Nurses Week

National Nurses Week is celebrated annually from May 6 to May 12th to honor the contributions of over 5 million nurses. In 2026, the celebration focuses on the theme “The Power of Nurses”, highlighting their crucial role in healthcare. Nurses work hard to ensure the health of their patients and deserve to feel the same care and appreciation every day, but especially this week! Make sure to give a big thank you to all your nurses and happy National Nurses Week!



### **Announcements:**

Please join us virtually for our **Immunization Skills Institute** on **Wednesday, May 27th, 2026, from 11AM-12PM.**

Ventura County Public Health’s Immunization Program has partnered with CDPH to present on best practices on vaccine storage handling, and strategies to optimize vaccine utilization.

This training will be available online for any clinical staff involved in vaccine administration and will also be recorded for those who cannot attend live. Please feel free to share this flyer with any colleagues that might benefit from attending.

To register for this year’s Immunization Skills Institute please see [attached flyer](#).



In collaboration with CDPH Immunization Branch, we invite you to participate in this year's

### **IMMUNIZATION SKILLS INSTITUTE 2026**

#### **Agenda:**

- Best practices on vaccine storage and handling
- Strategies to optimize vaccine utilization
- Q&A with speakers

11:00AM - 12:00PM

Wednesday, May 27, 2026

Live and will be recorded. Only online - Not in person.

**REGISTER NOW**

Questions? Call (805) 981-5211

Ventura County Public Health Immunization Program

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We are on the web!

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

or follow us on

