

February 2017 Jab & Gab Newsletter

Your Immunization Resource!

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Top Stories

2017 ACIP Recommended Vaccine Schedules Released

Kristy Westfall, VFC Coordinator

On February 7, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\) Recommended Immunization Schedule for Children and Adolescents Aged 18 Years or Younger-United States, 2017](#) and [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices Recommended Immunization Schedule for Adults Aged 19 Years or Older-United States, 2017](#) as an MMWR Early Release.

Each year, the ACIP updates the immunization schedules to reflect current recommendations for licensed vaccines. In October 2016, ACIP approved the recommended immunization schedules for 2017.

[Recommended Immunization Schedule for Children and Adolescents Aged 18 Years or Younger, UNITED STATES, 2017](#)

[Recommended Immunization Schedule for Adults Aged 19 Years or Older, United States, 2017](#)

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2017 Wyoming Immunization Conference - Register Today!

Kristy Westfall, VFC Coordinator

We are excited to announce that we have set the date for the 2017 Wyoming Immunization Conference! The 2017 conference will take place May 17-18 at the Parkway Plaza Hotel and Convention Center in Casper.

We have lots of exciting Exhibitor and Sponsor opportunities this year as well! Be sure to reserve your

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Influenza is Spreading and its Serious! Please Keep Vaccinating Your Patients!

LaChel May, Compliance Specialist



Influenza vaccination is recommended for everyone six months of age and older. If you don't provide influenza vaccination in your clinic, please recommend vaccination to your patients and refer them to a local clinic or pharmacy that provides influenza vaccine. The [HealthMap Vaccine Finder](#) can help locate sites near workplaces or homes that offer influenza vaccination services.

Remember, it's never too late to vaccinate for influenza!

Below is a list of resources related to influenza disease and vaccination for healthcare professionals and the public:

- [CDC's Seasonal Flu web section](#)
- [CDC's FluView web section](#)
- [CDC's Free Resources related to influenza](#)
- [IAC's handouts related to influenza](#)
- [HealthMap Vaccine Finder](#)
- [National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit website](#)
- [The Summit Buzz: Newsletter of the National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit](#)
- [Influenza Vaccine Availability Tracking System-IVATS: a resource for healthcare settings looking to purchase influenza vaccine](#)

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Vaccine Updates

Updated Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) for Gardasil-9

LaChel May, Compliance Specialist

As of December 2, 2016, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released an updated [Gardasil-9 Vaccine Information Statement \(VIS\)](#) which contains information about the recently approved 2-dose schedule. While this updated VIS should ideally begin to be used now, existing stocks of the current VIS may continue to be used, particularly for patients using the 3-dose schedule.

***Note:** the VIS no longer specifies "Gardasil-9." This is because Gardasil-9 will soon be the only HPV vaccine available in the U.S., as Cervarix and Gardasil (quadrivalent HPV vaccine) will no longer be sold in the United States. The appropriate VIS should continue to be used for those two vaccines as long as unexpired doses remain available.

For current HPV vaccine recommendations and Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) recommendations for the use of a 2-Dose Schedule, please visit: [Human Papillomavirus \(HPV\) ACIP Vaccine Recommendations](#).

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Public Vaccine Programs

2016-17 Public Influenza Vaccine Update

Kristy Westfall, VFC Coordinator

Since the 2016-17 Flu Season began, 11,340 doses of VFC influenza vaccine have been ordered. That's a lot of vaccine - but, Flu Season isn't over yet! In fact, there are many people who have still not received their annual flu shot. We did receive additional doses of influenza vaccine and all of the presentations are still available for ordering.

Because we are only guaranteed a certain number of doses of influenza vaccine each year though, it is important that providers start planning which ages still need a flu shot in your facility. Providers that see patients over the age of four (4) should plan to order doses of the Afluria and Fluvirin vaccine in order to have enough doses of the 36+ months presentations available for that age group. Otherwise, we could run out of the presentation available for the 36+ months to four (4) years age range.

**Age indication per package insert is ≥ 5 years; however, ACIP recommends that Afluria not be used in children aged 6 months through 8 years because of increased risk for febrile reactions noted in this age group with Seqirus' 2010 Southern Hemisphere IIV3. If no other age-appropriate, licensed inactivated seasonal influenza vaccine is available for a child aged 5 through 8 years who has a medical condition that increases the child's risk for influenza complications, Afluria can be used; however, providers should discuss with the parents or caregivers the benefits and risks of influenza vaccination with Afluria before administering this vaccine. Afluria may be used in persons aged ≥ 9 years.*

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Reminder for Temperature Logs

Aundrea Moore, Provider Support Specialist



Temperature Logs are vital in making sure that vaccines stay viable and they are a great tool to help with maintaining your facilities compliance. As a reminder, Temperature Logs should be faxed to 307-777-2913 or emailed to wdh-vfcreporting@wyo.gov and they are due for review by the 5th of each month. While I encourage each facility to maintain their private stock vaccines, I do ask that the private stock Temperature Logs not be sent in to me for review. Additionally, unless requested by the Vaccine Program, please do not send in Temperature Logs for units that are not currently being used to store vaccine. If for any reason your office will be closed, please note the closure dates on your Temperature Log. We appreciate your dedication in maintaining and managing your publicly supplied vaccines at your facility.

If you have any questions regarding Temperature Logs, please do not hesitate to contact me at 307-777-8503 or aundrea.moore@wyo.gov.

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Vaccine Restitution Policy Updated January 2017

Kristy Westfall, VFC Coordinator

The revised version of the *Vaccine Restitution Policy* for the replacement of publicly-supplied vaccine went into effect on January 1, 2017. No major updates to the policy were made; the changes were made to ensure the content was clear and concise. Overall, the situations in which replacement of publicly-supplied vaccine would be required did not change, only the language of the policy itself.

The Vaccine Restitution Policy is located on the Immunization Program website at: www.immunizewyoming.com > Healthcare Professionals > Provider Portal > Educational Resources. You can read the full policy now by clicking [this link](#).

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Birth Order-What's the Big Deal?

Jennifer Gray, WylR Interoperability Specialist

When the thought of birth order comes to mind, it's hard to see the importance of it in everyday life. So what's the big deal? When would birth order matter? Birth order matters when it comes to HL7 messaging and Immunization Information Systems (IIS), which here in Wyoming is the WylR. The WylR is built on a set of functional standards that are regulated and mandated by the CDC. One of those functionalities is built around birth order. The birth order of a patient allows the system to identify a singular or multiple birth. This matters because without the birth order the WylR will identify two patients with the similar demographic information, such as date of birth, location of birth, last name, and deem these two patients as a duplicate. Once the WylR thinks it has identified a duplicate patient, the WylR merges these two patients automatically. This happens with almost every twin or triplet along with patients born on the same day, in the same facility, and share similar demographic information - unless steps are taken to prevent the automatic merging. The merging of patients becomes problematic because when a facility tries to look up a patient that was merged by the system, the facility will encounter an issue. Issues, such as but not limited to: the patient missing altogether in the WylR, the appearance of missing vaccines, or the appearance of vaccines listed on the patient record that were not administered to that patient.

[Click here to read the full article to learn more about the importance of birth order and how it relates to HL7 messaging and the IIS.](#)

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Locked out of the WylR?

Aspen Joiner, Assistant WylR Support Specialist

Since we are now going into the New Year, there are many users that are reporting they have been locked out of the WylR. This is typically because they have not logged into the WylR for 30 days or longer. At the end of December, 12% of all users were locked out. We would like to work on bringing this percentage down, with users logging into the WylR more often.



Once a month, per our HIPAA compliance standards, we run a monthly report for user activity. Anyone who has not logged into the WylR for 30 days or longer is set as inactive. When the user goes to enter their username and password, they will not be able to log in. This report is run around the middle of each month.

It is recommended that you disconnect your autocomplete, so that a password will not automatically populate, this can be a cause of being locked out of the WylR. The Password Management Guide will give you the steps on how to disable autocomplete.

[Click here to read the full article to learn more.](#)

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WylR HL7 Evolution

John Anderson, MA, WylR Coordinator

In order to appreciate where we are in life, sometimes it is helpful to understand where we came from.

As for the HL7 connection between an immunization provider's Electronic Health Record (EHR) and the WylR, it has evolved over the years in an effort to increase data quality for the data exchange process.

While the current process is not perfect, steps are being taken to improve the process. The hope is that after reviewing the information in this article, the reader will appreciate the evolution of the connection process and efforts to achieve data quality within the WylR.

[Click here to view the full article and to learn more.](#)

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Education, Training, & Resources

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Vaccine Education Center

LaChel May, CPM, Compliance Specialist



The Vaccine Education Center at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia provides complete, up-to-date and reliable information about vaccines to parents and healthcare professionals. [Visit the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Vaccine Education Center.](#)

Among the many vaccine resources provided are two Vaccine DVDs, "Vaccines: Separating Fact from Fear" and "Vaccines and Your Baby" videos are available on the DVD titled "Vaccines." The DVD contains both English and Spanish versions of each movie and are available for purchase by both parents and healthcare providers. Additional videos are also provided, "Talking about Vaccines with Dr. Paul Offit", is a series of short videos which features Dr. Paul Offit answering common questions about vaccines. The videos are available on DVDs in a looped format and are available for purchase by healthcare providers.

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Bringing Immunity to Every Community