

## Hepatitis A outbreak in Minnesota

Earlier this month, we sent out a news release ([www.health.state.mn.us/news/pressrel/2019/hepa080819.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/news/pressrel/2019/hepa080819.html)) announcing an outbreak of hepatitis A in multiple Minnesota counties. People at highest risk in this outbreak are people who use injection or non-injection drugs, people experiencing homelessness or unstable housing, or people who are or have recently been incarcerated.

The most effective way to prevent hepatitis A is vaccination. We are asking providers to:

- Promote hepatitis A vaccine, prioritizing high-risk groups.
- Test patients with hepatitis A symptoms.
- Report suspected cases to MDH at 651-201-5414.

Find more information on the MDH Hepatitis A Outbreak Prevention and Response page ([www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/hepatitis/a/response.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/hepatitis/a/response.html)).

## Be aware of AFM symptoms in late summer/early fall

CDC and MDH are urging providers to watch for symptoms of acute flaccid myelitis (AFM) as we enter late summer/early fall. CDC began tracking AFM in 2014. Since then, AFM cases have followed a seasonal and biennial pattern, spiking between August and October every other year. In 2018, 11 AFM cases were confirmed in Minnesota.

The majority of AFM patients are previously healthy children who had respiratory symptoms or fever consistent with a viral infection less than a week before they experienced limb weakness. Providers seeing symptoms consistent with AFM should consult an infectious disease physician and a neurologist right away, and quickly report all suspect cases to MDH.

For more on AFM, see:

- CDC Vital Signs: *Nationwide Outbreak of Acute Flaccid Myelitis—United States, 2018* ([www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/afm/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/afm/index.html)).
- MDH Acute Flaccid Myelitis (AFM) ([www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/afm/index.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/afm/index.html)).

## AFIX becomes IQIP

On July 1, 2019, CDC's Assessment, Feedback, Incentive, and information eXchange (AFIX) program was replaced by a new initiative called the Immunization Quality Improvement Program (IQIP). Like AFIX, IQIP is focused on improving clinic immunization rates through site visits that include capacity building, MIIC training, and resource sharing. IQIP involves more process improvement discussions and customizing of activities to help meet your clinic's needs. Email [health.IQIP.mailbox@state.mn.us](mailto:health.IQIP.mailbox@state.mn.us) with questions about IQIP.

## 2019-20 MnVFC flu vaccine distribution

MnVFC 2019-20 flu vaccine will begin shipping to providers over the next few weeks. If you provided your email address with your flu prebook, you will receive a confirmation email when we process your order. See the Aug. 12 MnVFC Announcement ([www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/hcp/mnvfc/announcements.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/hcp/mnvfc/announcements.html)) for more information.

Clip and save 

Current VISs, August 2019 (Changes from last quarter are in bold italics.)	
<b>Chickenpox - interim</b>	<b>8/15/19</b>
Cholera	7/6/17
DTaP/DT/DTP	8/24/18
Hepatitis A	7/20/16
<b>Hepatitis B - interim</b>	<b>8/15/19</b>
Hib	4/2/15
HPV Gardasil-9	12/2/16
<b>Influenza - TIV - interim</b>	<b>8/15/19</b>
<b>Influenza - LAIV - interim</b>	<b>8/15/19</b>
<b>Japanese encephalitis</b>	<b>8/15/19</b>
<b>Meningococcal (ACWY) - interim</b>	<b>8/15/19</b>
<b>Serogroup B Meningococcal (MenB) - interim</b>	<b>8/15/19</b>
<b>MMR - interim</b>	<b>8/15/19</b>
<b>MMRV - interim</b>	<b>8/15/19</b>
Multi-vaccine	11/5/15
PCV13	11/5/15
PPSV23	4/24/15
Polio	7/20/16
Rabies	10/6/09
Rotavirus	2/23/18
Shingles/Zoster (live)	2/12/18
Shingles/Zoster (recombinant)	2/12/18
Td	4/11/17
Tdap	2/24/15
Typhoid	5/29/12
Yellow Fever	3/30/11

## Give a VIS before vaccinating: It's the law

Federal law requires anyone who vaccinates to give all patients, or their parents or legal guardians, the appropriate VIS before giving vaccines. Get more information at Facts About VISs ([www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/about/facts-vis.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/about/facts-vis.html)).

## New HPV cancer survivor videos

We recently created videos highlighting two young Minnesota HPV cancer survivors: Lily who survived cervical cancer and Steve who survived head and neck cancer. Their stories highlight the importance of preventing future HPV-related cancers with on-time vaccination. Watch and share these powerful stories.

- Lily's story ([www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/basics/stories/lily.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/basics/stories/lily.html)).
- Steve's story ([www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/basics/stories/steve.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/basics/stories/steve.html)).