

Save the date: 2020 Got Your Shots? Immunization Conference

The Got Your Shots? Immunization Conference is back in 2020! It will be Oct. 8-9, 2020, at the Earle Brown Heritage Center in Minneapolis, MN. The theme for this year's conference is... Improving immunization confidence: We're all pieces of the puzzle.

By the end of this conference, attendees will be able to:

- List effective strategies to improve vaccine confidence and communicate about immunizations.
- Discuss changes and additions to the childhood, adolescent, and adult immunization schedules.
- Understand different types of data to identify under-immunized populations.
- Create connections and identify local partners to help increase immunization rates.

More information about the agenda and registration will be coming in the next few months. Stay tuned!

Additional MnVFC influenza vaccine available to order

Influenza activity continues to be high with influenza A increasing, and we expect to see activity well into the spring. With that in mind, it is not too late to vaccinate! Influenza vaccine from the Minnesota Vaccines for Children (MnVFC) program is still available to order for this season (2019-20). To order additional pediatric MnVFC influenza vaccine doses, go to the Ordering MDH Vaccine (www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/hcp/mn-vfc/vaxorder.html) website and complete the online order form.

Immunization data updated on data portal

The Immunization (<https://data.web.health.state.mn.us/web/mndata/immunization>) section of the Minnesota Public Health Data Access Portal has been updated with 2019 pediatric and adolescent assessment rates, as well as required kindergarten vaccination and exemption rates for the 2018-19 school year. The data are displayed with interactive maps and charts. We encourage you to explore the data, especially for your local area.

A few notable things in the updated data sets include:

- We continue to see improvement in our childhood hepatitis A vaccination rates. While the 2019 rate of 42.7% falls below the HealthyPeople 2020 goal of 85%, there has been a 10 percentage point increase in the past five years.
- Our HPV vaccination series initiation rates among adolescents age 13 years increased from 48% in 2018 to 52% in 2019. This is great news, but we still have a long way to go to fully protect adolescents from HPV-related cancers.
- Vaccination rates for kindergarten students remain high in Minnesota at 91% or higher for each reported vaccine. However, some schools have lower rates, creating holes where students are vulnerable to disease.

Updated recommendations for tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis vaccines

CDC published new tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis vaccine recommendations. You can now use either Td or Tdap in these situations where only Td vaccine was previously indicated:

- The 10-year tetanus booster.
- Tetanus prophylaxis for wound management.
- Catch-up vaccination.

Children who received tetanus-containing vaccine at age 7 through 9 years should also receive the adolescent Tdap dose at age 11–12 years. You can find the published recommendations on DTaP/Tdap/Td ACIP Vaccine Recommendations (www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/vacc-specific/dtap.html).

Updated immunization schedules are posted

The 2020 Immunization Schedule for Children and Adolescents and the Immunization Schedule for Adults are now available. You can find a link to the schedules on Immunization Best Practices (www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/hcp/bestpractices.html) under the "Assess patients for needed vaccines section." Print versions of the schedules will be available to order from us for free in March.

Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS)

Health care providers are required to report any and all events that require medical attention after vaccination to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) (<https://vaers.hhs.gov/index>) regardless of whether it is related to vaccination.

MDH on social media

You can now find MDH on five social media channels! Share immunization and other health information with people in your community by connecting with MDH on:

- Facebook (www.facebook.com/mnhealth)
- Twitter (www.twitter.com/mnhealth)
- Instagram (www.instagram.com/mnhealth/)
- LinkedIn (www.linkedin.com/company/mnhealth)
- YouTube (www.youtube.com/user/MNDeptofHealth)

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