



Immunization Practices Enhancement (IPE) Update: Winter 2007

In this update, you'll find information on HPV vaccine, Pneumococcal and Hepatitis A immunizations, upcoming immunization in-services, a recap of our 2007 Provider Recognition Event, and FREE resources that can help you to provide immunizations on-time, every time!

It's Not Too Late to Vaccinate Against Influenza!

Did you know?

- In 2004, the flu and pneumonia caused more deaths than diabetes in LA County.
- Flu shots are safe, cost-effective and the best way to protect yourself, your patients, and your community from the flu.
- To avoid missed opportunities to vaccinate, the CDC recommends that providers offer flu vaccinations during routine healthcare visits or acute visits when vaccination is not contraindicated.
- All healthcare professionals should be vaccinated annually against influenza.
- Cases of the flu usually peak in January or February so the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend that vaccinations be provided through December and beyond.

There are a variety of tools and resources available that you can use to promote influenza vaccinations with your patients and staff. Visit one of the websites below to learn about effective strategies for improving immunization rates and to download or order FREE provider, staff, and patient education materials:

- **California Adult Immunization Coalition**
<http://www.immunizeadults.org/naiaw/index2007.asp>
- **California Department of Public Health Immunization Branch**
<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/izgroup/diseasesbrowse/flu.htm>
- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**
<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/>
- **Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services**
http://www.cms.hhs.gov/AdultImmunizations/02_Providerresources.asp
- **Immunize LA Kids Coalition**
www.izlakids.org
- **Immunization Action Coalition**
<http://www.immunize.org/>
- **National Foundation for Infectious Diseases**
<http://www.nfid.org/>

