



Immunization Practices Enhancement (IPE) Project Update



LABioMed
Los Angeles
Biomedical
Research Institute
at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center

It's not too late to join the Immunization Practices Enhancement Project.

Immunize LA Kids has several more opportunities for physicians in South L.A. to join our IPE project. Participating offices receive an annual immunization assessment, a training session, follow-up consultations, educational materials, and access to our Warm Line. These services are funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention & the California Department of Health Services Immunization Branch. If you know of a physician practice that may wish to join, please contact Tamekia Mosley, MPA, CHES at 323-757-7244, ext. 281 or tmosley@slahp.org.

Data-sharing supports improved immunization rates across L.A.

We would like to remind you that the baseline and follow-up immunization rates obtained for your practice via our annual office-based assessment will be shared with the Los Angeles County Immunization Program (LACIP) only. Sharing this data:

- Assists LACIP in the county-wide tracking of immunization rates.
- Supports the evaluation of a reminder/recall system implemented as part of the LACIP private provider intervention to increase immunization rates &
- Offers opportunities for coordination of services offered by Immunize LA Kids' IPE Project & the Vaccines for Children Program.

No patient-level data will be shared and your information will not be shared with any other entity. If you have questions about this process or would prefer that your data not be shared with LACIP, please don't hesitate to contact Julia Heinzerling, MPH at 323-757-7244, ext. 228 or jheinzerling@slahp.org. For information on LACIP, as well as immunization data and resources, visit www.lapublichealth.org/ip/index.htm.

PCV7 shortage resolved. Are your patients who missed 3rd or 4th dose(s) caught -up?

Due to supply issues, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) previously recommended that providers suspend the 3rd and/or 4th dose(s) of PCV7 (pneumococcal conjugate vaccine) for healthy children. The shortage is resolved so it's time to resume the routine schedule and provide catch-up shots to children who missed the 3rd and/or 4th dose(s). The CDC recommends that catch-up efforts prioritize children aged <5 years at high risk for invasive pneumococcal disease due to certain immunocompromising or chronic conditions. Secondary priority groups include healthy children:

- < 24 months old who have not received any doses &
- <12 months old who have not received 3 doses.

To assist with your catch-up efforts, Wyeth Vaccines will provide you with free postage-paid PCV-7 recall postcards in English and Spanish. To order, please contact Jane Lee Choe, MPH at 888-685-5961, ext 76846.

Recommendations appear in MMWR. September 17, 2004 / 53(36);851-852. Available at www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5336a8.htm.

It's NOT too late to vaccinate against Influenza.

The flu season is starting late and vaccinating through early 2005 can still protect your patients from the flu. The California Department of Health Services has announced that all Californians are now eligible to receive inactivated flu shots and that adult and pediatric inactivated influenza vaccine is available for health care providers to order through the local health department.

For more information, visit www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/izgroup/flu.htm.

If you have questions, are interested in assistance with your immunization systems, or would like to obtain educational materials, please contact our Immunization Warm Line at 323-757-7244, extension 321.