**Immunization & Exemption Rates:** In May 2014, House Bill 14-1288 was passed in order to improve access to immunization information and data. The act requires schools to make the immunization and exemption rates of their enrolled student population publicly available. Colorado parents will be able to compare immunization rates when choosing a school or licensed child care facility for their child. Beginning this school year, some Colorado schools and licensed child cares must report aggregate immunization data to CDPHE by December 1 of each year, per Colorado Board of Health rule 6 CCR 1009-2. Public, private and parochial schools with grades K - 12, child care centers, preschools and head start programs with more than 10 children are required to report. School-age child care centers, family child care homes, drop-in centers, day treatment centers, foster care homes, day camps and resident camps are not required to report.

**The Old Fashioned Flu Shot is Back:**

A recent announcement from the CDC recommending against the use of the popular FluMist nasal spray might be disappointing news to children and adults hoping to avoid a needle prick. A CDC’s advisory panel decided in June, that the nasal spray was so ineffective that it should not be used by anyone during the 2016-2017 flu season. The CDC says it doesn’t know yet what caused the FluMist to fail. But that doesn’t mean people ought to skip the old fashioned preventive measure. Despite the loss of this form of vaccine, experts continue to strongly recommend that just about everyone 6 months and older get vaccinated because influenza can cause serious illness and death. According to the CDC the flu killed 146 children in 2014-15 and about 80 percent of flu-related deaths in children 6 months and older occur in patients who didn’t get a flu vaccine. Which is why, given the latest news, families and individuals should pursue the most effective treatment possible- even if it means some discomfort will be involved. Community Health Services have flu shots available for this season!