Janet T. Mills Governor

Jeanne M. Lambrew, Ph.D. Commissioner



Maine Department of Health and Human Services
Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
11 State House Station
286 Water Street
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011
Tel; (207) 287-8016; Fax (207) 287-9058
TTY: Dial 711 (Maine Relay)

**To:** Maine Immunization Providers **From:** Maine Immunization Program

**Subject:** Interim Guidance for Immunization Services

**Date:** June 16, 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed how healthcare providers operate and provide essential services to patients. Ensuring that immunization services are maintained or reinitiated is essential for protecting individuals and communities from vaccine-preventable diseases and outbreaks as well as reducing the burden of respiratory illness on healthcare systems during the upcoming influenza season.

The U.S. CDC has issued "Interim Guidance for Immunization Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic" to help immunization providers in a variety of clinical settings plan for the safe vaccine administration during the COVID-19 pandemic. This guidance will be updated as the COVID-19 pandemic evolves.

## Highlights include:

- Considerations for routine vaccination of all recommended vaccinations for children, adolescents, and adults, including pregnant women
- General practices for the safe delivery of vaccination services, including considerations for alternative vaccination sites
- Strategies for catch up vaccinations

We strongly encourage you to review this guidance and use the federal resources designed to guide vaccine planning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you have questions, please contact the Maine Immunization Program at 207-287-3746.

As always, we thank you for all that you do to keep the children of Maine free from vaccine-preventable disease.