



Update for August 2024

This month's immunization newsletter includes August Immunization Campaigns: National Immunization Awareness Month, California HPV Vaccine Week, and Back to School resources. Please review these timely updates and scroll to the bottom for upcoming immunization webinars.

VPDC Survey

LACDPH is asking for your help in filling out a quick 2-minute survey to identify how to best support pediatric providers with vaccine administration and promoting vaccine confidence with patients and their families. Please complete our short survey [here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact csepulveda@ph.lacounty.gov

Immunization Updates

National Immunization Awareness Month

[National Immunization Awareness Month \(NIAM\)](#) is an annual observance held in August to highlight the importance of vaccination for people of all ages. Together, we can help raise awareness about the importance of vaccination and encourage people to talk to a healthcare provider they trust about staying up to date on their vaccinations.

Resources:

All staff in healthcare practices, including non-clinical staff, play important roles during NIAM:

- Engage in learning opportunities with CDC's [Immunization Education and Training](#) courses.
- Make your practice a supportive space that welcomes [vaccine questions and concerns](#) from patients and parents.
- Use [proven strategies](#) to encourage parents and patients to stay up to date on vaccinations.
- Make [immunization schedules](#) easy for parents and patients to find by displaying them [on your website](#).

California HPV Vaccine Week

California HPV Vaccine Week is an annual observance held the first full week of August (August 4-11). The goal of this campaign is to increase awareness of the HPV vaccine and promote the vaccination of adolescents ages 9-13. California HPV Vaccine Week is a great way for families, providers, local health departments and coalitions supporting children's health to get the message out about the importance of the HPV vaccine as cancer prevention.

Resources:

- [CA HPV Vaccine Week Info Campaign Toolkit](#)
- [CA HPV Roundtable](#)

- [LACDPH HPV](#) – HPV Information for Public and Providers

Back to School Clinician Resources

Send reminder messages to patients, see example message below:

Getting ready for back to school? Add getting routine vaccines to your back-to-school checklist!

- As we get ready for back-to-school season, children and teens need to be up-to-date on their vaccinations to keep them healthy and safe.
- Staying up to date this school year also means receiving updated flu and COVID-19 vaccines for all children over 6 months of age in the fall.



CDC Lets RISE: Routine Immunizations on Schedule for Everyone

Let's RISE is a CDC initiative to provide actionable strategies, resources, and data to support getting all Americans back on-schedule with their routine immunizations to protect everyone from vaccine-preventable disease and disability.

Resources:

- [NEW! CDPH Back-to-School \(BTS\) Immunization Events](#)
- [Don't Wait Vaccinate CDPH Resources for Providers](#)
- [CDC Renewed Call to Action Providers](#)
- [Let's RISE Toolkit for Health Care Providers](#)
- [Let's Rise Infographic](#)
- [Childhood Routine Vaccination Factsheet](#)
- [Adolescent Routine Vaccination Factsheet](#)

- [Grows Up Healthy](#) - Exam room poster for pediatric clinics

Children's Eye Health and Safety Month

[August is Children's Eye Health and Safety Month](#). It aims to raise awareness about the importance of eye care for kids. This month focuses on educating parents and caregivers about the need for regular eye exams, early detection of vision problems, and the prevention of eye injuries. Ensuring proper eye health and safety helps children perform better in school and enjoy a better quality of life.

Respiratory Disease Prevention Updates

COVID-19:

CDC recommends everyone ages 6 months and older receive an updated 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine when these vaccines are available later this year.

- [In the 2023-2024 season, hospitalizations were highest in individuals >75 years of age, followed by infants <6 months of age. Although there are no vaccines available for newborns, maternal immunization can help protect young children.](#)
- 50% of pediatric patients who were hospitalized had no underlying conditions. In older kids, asthma was the most common underlying condition.
- Only 5% of pediatric patients who were hospitalized had received 2023-2024 vaccine prior to admission.
- [More children were hospitalized or died from COVID-19 than Influenza last year.](#)

RSV:

Infants:

- [Two reviewed studies showed that nirsevimab was 77% effective against RSV-associated ED visits and 91-98% effective against RSV-associated hospitalizations. We estimate that roughly 21% of infants in Los Angeles County were protected from RSV from either receiving nirsevimab or through maternal vaccination.](#)
- This RSV season, we encourage all [birthing hospitals](#) and pediatric practices to administer nirsevimab to all eligible infants shortly after birth. To prevent severe RSV disease in infants, CDC recommends either maternal RSV vaccination or infant immunization with RSV monoclonal antibodies. Most infants will not need both.
 - ***Immunization for infants and young children***
 - 1 dose of the monoclonal antibody product, nirsevimab, for all infants aged 8 months and younger born during or entering their first RSV season.
 - 1 dose of nirsevimab for infants and children aged 8–19 months who are at increased risk for severe RSV disease and entering their second RSV season.
 - ***Vaccination for pregnant people***
 - 1 dose of maternal RSV vaccine (Abrysvo) during weeks 32 through 36 of pregnancy, administered September through January. Abrysvo is the only RSV vaccine recommended during pregnancy. Additional doses of RSV vaccine during future pregnancies are not recommended. However, these infants can receive nirsevimab.

- o For more information about RSV immunization recommendations [click here](#).
- For RSV Vaccine information for other age groups, please visit the [CDC RSV Vaccines Page](#).

Parent Leadership Opportunities at DPH

Parent engagement opportunity! Applications are open for the Parent Ambassador Leaders (PALs) Program at Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.

- Any parent or guardian of a student at a TK-12 campus within LA County boundaries, excluding schools in Pasadena or Long Beach, who is 18 years or older, is welcome to apply. Please share this opportunity with parent classes or other health education programming at your clinics. See flyer in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) to share. Applications are due by October 4, 2024. Link to application [here](#). For more information visit [their website](#).
- Parents will learn about student health topics including vaccines, mental health, substance use, and more! They will share resources, present information learned, as well as plan and coordinate activities promoting PALs program topics for their school community.
- The program requires a 20-hour time commitment with a \$550 gift card incentive upon completion.

Additional Health Campaigns Observed in August

National Breastfeeding Month

National Breastfeeding Month promotes the benefits of breastfeeding for both babies and parents. It aims to support and educate families, highlighting the nutritional, immune, and bonding advantages of breastfeeding. However, managing breastfeeding in today's fast-paced world can be challenging. It's important to recognize that the decision to breastfeed or use other feeding methods is personal. All families deserve support and accurate information to make the best choices for their circumstances.

Resources:

- Explore the various programs offered for parents and families at [Los Angeles County DPH Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health](#)
- [BreastfeedLA](#) – Resources and brochure with breastfeeding information for patients
- [Marijuana and Your Baby](#) - Information about marijuana use during pregnancy & breastfeeding
- [National Women's Health Information Center Breastfeeding Homepage](#) - A project of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office on Women's Health, offering breastfeeding information

Upcoming Webinars

California Department of Public Health: Immunization Updates for Providers

This webinar providers Immunization Branch (IZB) updates, including COVID-19, RSV, Flu and other relevant vaccine and program updates. Pre-registration is required. The sessions are scheduled for every other week on Fridays from 9-10:30am. **Upcoming: August 23, 2024**

Complete one-time registration [here](#).

LA County Department of Public Health: Provider Immunization Office Hours

This webinar will include important immunization updates for providers in Los Angeles County. Pre-registration is not required. The sessions are scheduled for every other week on Wednesdays from 9-10am. **Upcoming: August 14, 2024 & August 28, 2024.**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)