

# Vaccine Preventable Disease Control Program

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip/index.htm>



Welcome to VPDC Pediatric Immunization Updates!

As we enter October, it's crucial to prepare for the peak of respiratory virus season. This newsletter provides essential information and resources to help you protect your patients and communities effectively. By staying informed and proactive, providers can help protect their patients and communities during this respiratory virus season.

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## First Cases of Human Avian Influenza A (H5N1) in California & Preparation for the Respiratory Virus Season

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is [notifying healthcare providers](#) of the first human avian influenza A (H5N1) cases in California and urging preparedness for the upcoming respiratory virus season. As of October 10, 2024, CDPH has detected [four cases](#) of avian influenza A (H5N1) in workers at dairy facilities in the Central Valley of California.

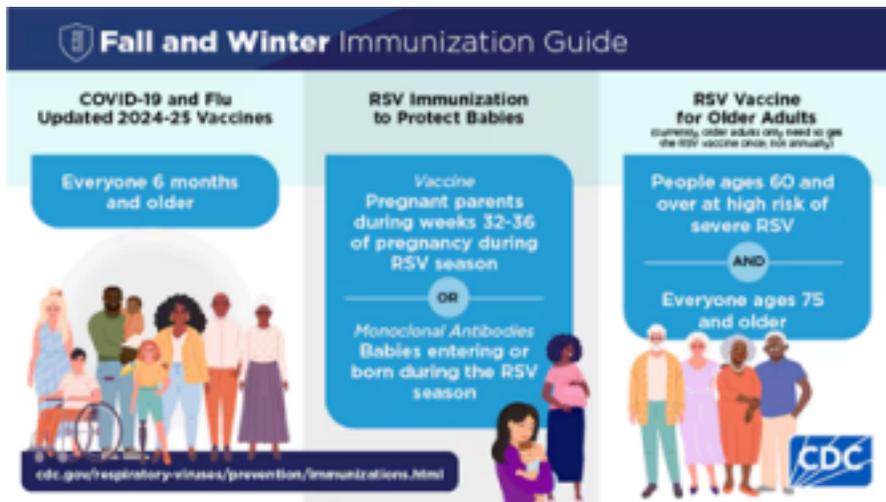
[Click here to read more.](#)

# Vaccines for Children (VFC) 2024-2025 COVID-19, Flu and RSV Ordering

Vaccines for COVID-19, flu, and RSV for the 2024–2025 season are now available to order through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. For more information and resources, please check slides 41–53 of the *CDPH Immunization Updates for Providers* webinar from September 20, 2024 ([slides](#) | [recording](#)).

Additionally, please review the [2024–2025 VFC Flu Ordering letter](#) and [FAQs](#) sent on September 5, 2024, as well as the [COVID-19 vaccine communication](#) sent on September 6, 2024. Providers who received allocations of nirsevimab should refer to the targeted communication emailed to their key practice staff.

## Immunization Updates



### COVID-19:

- **2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccines are no longer authorized and should not be administered.** Remove them from inventory, report as expired (**regardless of expiration date**) and return to McKesson. For details, visit the [EZIZ Reporting and Return of Nonviable Vaccines](#) page.
- If a deauthorized product (e.g., a 20232024 COVID-19 vaccine) is administered, report the error to [VERP](#). For more info: [VAERS/VERP/MedWatchJobaid](#).
- A 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine should be given at least 2 months since the last dose of any COVID-19 vaccine. See [CDC Guidance for](#)

### [Administration Errors.](#)

- Remind patients: [Everyone ages 6 months and older should get a 2024–2025 COVID-19 vaccine.](#) The COVID-19 vaccine helps protect you from severe disease, hospitalization, and death.
- Vaccine protection decreases over time, so it is important to stay up to date with your COVID-19 vaccine.

### **Influenza:**

- [Influenza activity](#) in the United States during the 2023–2024 season (October 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024) was moderately severe and within the range seen during pre-COVID-19 seasons for both timing and intensity of activity.
- During the 2023–2024 season, influenza activity began to increase in early November and peaked in late December 2023.
- Remind patients:
  - Everyone six months of age and older should receive the flu vaccine every year.
  - There are [many reasons](#) to get a flu vaccine each year:
    - Flu vaccines help keep you from getting very sick from flu.
    - Flu vaccines lower chances of illness and hospitalization.

### **RSV:**

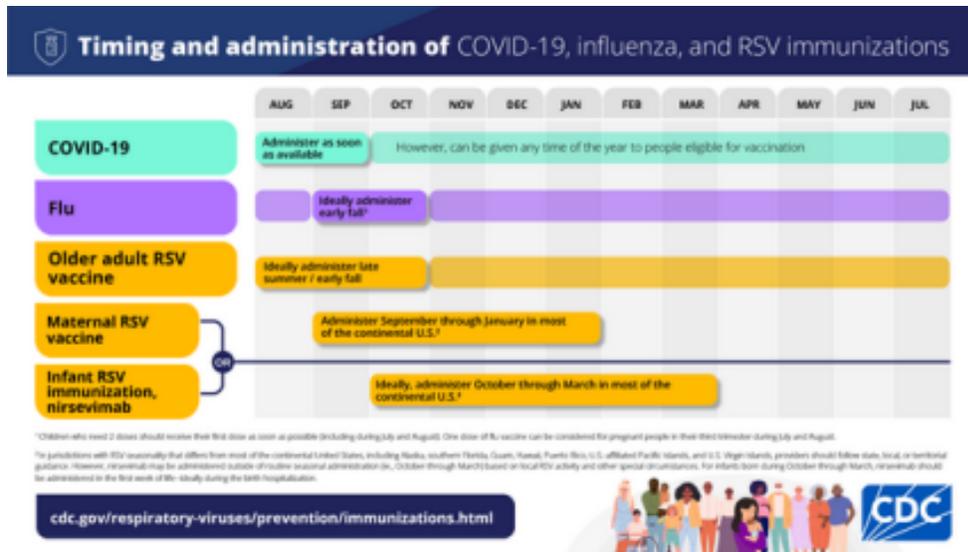
At its peak in the 2023 – 2024 season (week ending Dec. 30, 2023), RSV accounted for nearly 80% of all [infant respiratory hospitalizations.](#)

RSV immunization is recommended for:

- Infants younger than 8 months
- High-risk infants/toddlers 8-19 months
- People who are 32-36 weeks pregnant between September and January
- All adults 75 and older
- Some high-risk adults 60-74 years old with certain medical conditions

## **Timing and Administration of COVID 19, Influenza and RSV Immunizations**

For guidance on the timing and administration of COVID-19, influenza, and RSV immunizations, please refer to the CDC's [Planning for Fall/Winter Virus Season](#) presentation and the CDC [Health Care Provider Resources for Respiratory Virus](#) Season webpage.



## RespWatch

Los Angeles (LA) County Department of Public Health (DPH) collects information on indicators of COVID-19, influenza, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus activity year-round. These indicators track the intensity, spread, and temporal trends of viral respiratory illness in LA County.

For more information about respiratory viruses visit:  
<http://ph.lacounty.gov/acd/respiratory.htm#immunizations>

For Viral Respiratory Surveillance for LA County visit: [RESP WATCH](#)

## Upcoming Webinars

### LA County Department of Public Health: Provider Immunization Office Hours

These biweekly sessions 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 9:00 –10:00 am. **Next Session:**

**Wednesday October 23, 2024**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

### California Department of Public Health: Immunization Updates for Providers

This webinar provides Immunization Branch (IZB) updates, including COVID-19, RSV, Flu and other relevant vaccine and program updates. Pre-registration is for every other week on

Fridays from 9- 10:30am. **Upcoming: October 18, 2024**

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

**CDPH Crucial Conversations Webinar: Talking with Families about Fall Immunizations: COVID-19, Flu, RSV**

Please join Dr. Ilan Shapiro to learn conversational methodologies for effectively talking with families about fall immunizations, including COVID-19, flu, and RSV.

When: **Tuesday, October 22, 2024 Time: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm (PT)**

Registration link [here](#).

**Save the Date: LACDPH VPDC Quarterly Pediatric Information Session**

This webinar will feature guest speaker, Dr. Michele Roland from Children's Hospital Los Angeles, presenting on suicide prevention strategies for adolescents. It will also cover immunization updates and recommendations for respiratory virus season.

When: **Thursday November 14, 2024 Time: 12:00-1:00 pm**. Registration [link here](#).

## Resources for Providers

- [CDC Healthcare Provider Resources Wild to Mild | Flu Resource Center \(CDC\)](#)
- [RSV Communication Toolkit \(CDPH\)](#)
- [Updated COVID-19 Vaccine Timing Guide \(CDPH\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Product Guide 2024 – 2025 \(CDPH\)](#)
- [CDPH RSV Information Page](#)
- [LACDPH Vaccine Preventable Diseases Webpage](#)
- [LACDPH COVID-19 Information for Public & Providers](#)
- [LACDPH Respiratory Syncytial Virus Immunization Information](#)
- [LACDPH Influenza Flu Webpage](#)
- [CDC How to Talk to Parents about COVID-19 Vaccination](#)
- [CDC Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [CDC Staying Up to Date with COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [CDPH COVID-19 Product Guide 2024-2025](#)
- [CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Timing 2024 – 2025](#)
- [Respiratory Virus Hospitalization Surveillance Network \(RESP-NET\)](#)
- [CDPH Respiratory Disease Immunization Recommendations for Children and Adolescents](#)

# Resources for Patients

- [Order COVID-19 Testing](#)
- NFID Educational Flu Video- [English|Spanish](#)
- A list of [free and low-cost clinics](#) to refer your families to.
- [Interactive county map](#) to locate free and low-cost vaccines clinics.
- [LACDPH Vaccines](#) website for patients and their families to get more information on vaccines.
- The LA County Department of Public Health manages two vaccination sites. Walk-ins available, [click here for more information.](#)
- [CDPH Respiratory Virus Webpage](#)
- [CDPH Respiratory Virus Protection Toolkit](#)
- [CDPH Tips for Staying Healthy this Virus Season Fact Sheet](#)
- [CDPH Protect yourself from Respiratory Viruses Fact Sheet](#)
- [CDPH General Respiratory Virus Prevention Social Media Posts \(English\)](#)
- [CDPH General Respiratory Virus Prevention Social Media Posts \(Spanish\)](#)
- [LACDPH Vaccines Webpage](#)
- [LACDPH Vaccines for School Aged Children Fact Sheet \(English\)](#) | العربية | հայերեն | မြန်မာစာ | 简体中文 | 繁體中文 | فارسی | 日本語 | 한국어 | Русский | Español | Tagalog | Tiếng Việt
- [LACDPH Vaccines for Infants and Toddlers \(English\)](#) | العربية | հայերեն | မြန်မာစာ | 简体中文 | 繁體中文 | فارسی | 日本語 | 한국어 | Русский | Español | Tagalog | Tiếng Việt
- [LACDPH Vaccines for People with Chronic Diseases \(English\)](#) | العربية | հայերեն | မြန်မာစာ | 简体中文 | 繁體中文 | فارسی | 日本語 | 한국어 | Русский | Español | Tagalog | Tiếng Việt
- [CDC Protect yourself from COVID-19, Flu and RSV](#)
- [CDC Respiratory Virus Resources for People with Disabilities](#)