



Chicago Department
of Public Health

VACCINES FOR CHILDREN NEWS BULLETIN

Chicago Department of Public Health – Immunization Program

Issue Number 16: December 7, 2020

The news bulletin serves to keep you aware of emerging VFC program, vaccine, and vaccine-preventable disease updates.

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COVID-19 Vaccine Updates for VFC Providers

As you have likely heard, the FDA may grant Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the first COVID-19 vaccine in mid-December. Since Outpatient and FQHC Healthcare Providers fall within the category of initial healthcare providers to be vaccinated, we are writing to you as to obtain planning information for the city of Chicago. Among healthcare personnel at your clinic, priority will be given to healthcare professionals who are working directly with COVID-19 patients. Any Outpatient Clinic or FQHC outside the city limits fall under the planning scenarios of IDPH which, in principle, is the same process, but through a different jurisdictional authority.

If you haven't already, it is **ESSENTIAL** that you complete this short survey: <https://redcap.link/StaffVaccinationSurvey>

The survey result will allow CDPH to plan for the amount of vaccine that will be needed for Outpatient Centers and FQHCs. We anticipate that you will have additional questions, and they can be directed to our Immunization Team at COVID19Vaccine@cityofchicago.org.

Join Fridays at 12:00 PM - Chicago Healthcare System Coalition for Preparedness and Response

[COVID-19 Vaccine Planning Situational Awareness Web Meeting Series](#)

For updated information on COVID-19 vaccines, visit www.chicago.gov/covidvax and www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html

National Influenza Vaccination Week December 6-12, 2020

[National Influenza Vaccination Week \(NIVW\)](#) is December 6 – 12, 2020. NIVW is an annual observance in December to remind everyone 6 months and older that there's still time to get vaccinated against flu to be protected during the upcoming winter and holiday months. Together, we can use NIVW as a nationwide call to action to encourage those who have not already to get their annual flu shot, especially those with chronic conditions. Visit CDC's [NIVW Digital Toolkit](#) page for more resources and information on how to participate in NIVW.

Chicago Public Schools has released its **minimum health requirements** for the 2020-21 school year.



Upcoming Webinars and Training Opportunities

[Flu Vaccination Through Late Fall and Winter: It's Not Too Late!](#)

The Public Health Foundation (PHF) is hosting a webinar on December 7, 2020 from 1:00 – 2:00pm on the importance of Flu Vaccination Through Late Fall and Winter. During the COVID-19 pandemic, it will be important for all individuals, especially those at high-risk, to receive an annual influenza vaccination. Influenza vaccination will be a critical strategy to decrease stress on our healthcare system, by decreasing influenza-related doctor visits and hospitalizations, as well as decreasing the number of people who will need influenza diagnostic testing. Register [here](#).

Please join ICAAP Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:00-1:00pm

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8141909303490981133>

Jennifer Burns, NP - University of Chicago Children's Hospital

Survivor Story from Families Fighting Flu

Chicago VFC Holiday Shipping Schedule



All VFC vaccine orders need to be submitted by **December 11th, 2020** in order to ship before the holiday shipping shutdown. All orders submitted must have temperature logs submitted and be clear of inventory issues in order to be processed promptly.

Orders that are received after December 11th, have temperature log or inventory issues will ship when CDC resumes regular vaccine shipping the week of January 4th. This includes order for influenza (please send those requests to chicagovfc@cityofchicago.org).

REMINDER: 2020 VFC Regional Meeting Webinar

At least 2 staff members from each Chicago VFC practice are required to complete the webinar and evaluation. **Deadline is December 31, 2020.**

Register [here](#).

For webinar/CE questions: Awong@illinoisap.org

Return Expired Flu Vaccine

You may now return flu vaccine from the 2019/20 flu season.

Please fill out a Vaccine Return Form ([available on the HAN](#)) and fax to 312-746-6220.

Please also remember to **remove it from your I-CARE inventory** after submitting the Return Form.



Contact Us

Forms, Policies, and Program Updates

www.ChicagoHAN.org/VFC

Primary Contact Method

ChicagoVFC@cityofchicago.org

Please use this email for all general VFC inquiries and issues including those related to vaccine orders and temperature excursions

Program Questions

ChicagoVFC@cityofchicago.org

Clinical Questions

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