

New immunization resource

As we wrap up National Immunization Awareness Month, remember to get children up to date on vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccine, before the school year begins and continue to identify and schedule patients that are due or overdue for recommended vaccines. We developed a flyer to connect with parents and families on the importance of well-child checks and vaccination. Visit [Well-child Visits and Immunization \(www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/hcp/wellchild\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/hcp/wellchild/).

Vax to School

With the school year right around the corner, we are sharing “Vax to School” messages to remind families that now is the time to check what vaccines their child needs, including COVID-19 vaccine. Many children fell behind on their recommended vaccines during the pandemic. To have a safer and healthier school year, it’s important to make sure children are up to date on all recommended vaccines. These visits are also a great time to discuss other physical or mental health questions or needs the child might have ahead of the school year.

For the next few weeks send reminder/recall messages to families who may be due or overdue for recommended vaccines. Share information about the importance of vaccines through emails, social media, and other communication channels. Social media graphics are available in English, Hmong, Spanish, and Somali on [Stay Safe MN Social Media Images \(mn.gov/covid19/share-our-message/social/\)](https://mn.gov/covid19/share-our-message/social/), or you can share “Vax to School” social media posts from MDH.

Novavax COVID-19 vaccine to include 12-17-year-olds

On Aug. 22, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated their [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines \(www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html\)](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html) to include Novavax COVID-19 vaccine as a primary series COVID-19 option in adolescents ages 12-17 years.

Flu vaccination recs are published!

The 2022-23 influenza vaccination recommendations are available at [CDC: MMWR \(www.cdc.gov/mmwr\)](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/). Here are the key highlights of changes for the coming season:

- There are two updated influenza strains in this year’s formulation, the AH3N2 and B Victoria strains.
- Flucelvax (IIV4) has been added to the list of vaccine products available to people as young as 6 months old.
- The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) is stating a preference of specific vaccine products for people 65 years and older. This recommendation comes after most flu vaccine had been ordered so give whatever product is available and consider this new preference language when ordering vaccine products for the next season. The following products are preferred in seniors, when available:
 - High-dose inactivated influenza, quadrivalent (HD IIV4) – this includes the brand HD-Fluzone
 - Recombinant influenza vaccine, quadrivalent (RIV4) – this includes the brand Flublok
 - Adjuvanted influenza vaccine, quadrivalent (aIIV4) – this includes the brand Fludad

Sign up to get an email alert when the 2022-23 Minnesota Fall Flu Guide is available at [Influenza Vaccine Information for Health Professionals \(www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/flu/hcp/vaccine/\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/flu/hcp/vaccine/).

Influenza vaccine distribution is underway

Flu vaccine distribution for the 2022-23 season began the week of Aug. 15. Prebook requests may be broken up into a few small shipments. You can check the status of your prebook request by logging into MIIC. Refer to p. 6 of our user guide at [Special Event Vaccine Request \(www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/miic/train/specrequest.pdf\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/miic/train/specrequest.pdf).

UUAV influenza vaccine eligibility update

The CDC has announced that un- and underinsured adult vaccine (UUAV) flu doses may be administered to all adults regardless of insurance status for the 2022-23 season. Priority for UUAV flu vaccine should be given to people without other means of receiving flu vaccine, and screening for insurance is recommended when possible. This applies to all UUAV flu vaccine this season, including the doses you initially requested during prebook in January. UUAV eligibility for all other routinely recommended vaccines remains the same (un- and underinsured adults only). You can request additional adult flu doses in MIIC but note that there is a limited supply.

Monkeypox (MPX) vaccine

We have distributed MPX vaccine to clinics and health care systems that provide health care services to those at highest risk. Refer to our [Interim MPX Vaccination Guidance \(www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/monkeypox/interimmpxvax.pdf\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/monkeypox/interimmpxvax.pdf) for more information. We are engaging more local public health clinics across the state as “safety net” sites for those without a medical home or for those whose medical homes don’t yet have vaccine. If your site is interested in being a MPX vaccine provider, especially if you serve those at high-risk, email us at health.mdhvaccine@state.mn.us.

Entering data into MIIC

Did you know you can use the general immunization spreadsheet to enter immunization data into MIIC? Rather than entering in immunizations one by one through the user interface, you can use the spreadsheet to upload any/all immunizations for your clients. You can also update demographic data, address, and phone numbers. This method of data entry also allows you to enter shots given to your patients by other providers or from other states, in addition to the ones you have given them. Instructions are under “General immunization spreadsheet” on [Submitting and Exchanging Data \(www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/miic/data/\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/miic/data/).

You can use the spreadsheet to enter your JYNNEOS vaccines too! However, there are a few steps to take to ensure accurate data entry. The MIIC team will work with you to ensure accurate recording of the administration route. Contact the [MIIC Helpdesk \(health.miichelp@state.mn.us\)](mailto:health.miichelp@state.mn.us) with your organization code to get started.

Broadcast Fax service ending

To receive all future issues by email visit [Got Your Shots? News \(www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/hcp/gys/\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/hcp/gys/) and click on the “Subscribe to Got Your Shots? News” link at the top of the page. You can unsubscribe at any time.