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IMMUNIZATION UPDATES - July 2011

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1. Celebrating Immunization Awareness Month 2011

August is National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM). This is a great time to collaborate with community organizations in your immunization education efforts. The goal of NIAM is to increase awareness about immunizations that are recommended during the entire lifespan of an individual. This year marks the fifth time the Department of Defense (DoD) has participated in the annual Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) NIAM campaign. Within the DoD we often focus on the immunization needs of our deployed Service members and the immunizations required for children to attend school; but no matter the age or occupation, immunization health should be maintained throughout one's lifetime.

DoD's aim is to provide comprehensive immunization health care in an effort to prevent illness in military beneficiaries, retirees, and employees; educating them on all immunizations they may need. Immunizations continue to change and new vaccines are released each year, so it is important for healthcare providers to continue to share this important health information.

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/events/niam/default.htm>

2. Vaccine Storage and Handling Guidelines Released 8 July 2011

Vaccine storage and handling is a challenge for many locations that dispense and administer vaccines. That challenge results in many questions about the proper procedures, processes and regulations for vaccine handling. On 8 July 2011,

MILVAX published a guide to help locations navigate through the common question and concerns regarding vaccine storage and handling. This is a living document and we appreciate your comments about the product. Any comments or questions regarding the guide should be emailed to vaccines@amedd.army.mil.

[http://www.vaccines.mil/documents/1437MILVAX S&H Guidelines FullVer 8 Jul 11.pdf](http://www.vaccines.mil/documents/1437MILVAX_S&H_Guidelines_FullVer_8_Jul_11.pdf)

3. Boostrix Now Approved for Use in Adults 65 yrs and older

The FDA has approved an expanded use of Boostrix to prevent tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis in individuals 65 years of age and older. Boostrix was licensed for use in individuals 10-64 years but with continued outbreaks of pertussis in the pediatric and elderly populations the need for a vaccine was critical. This is the first Tdap vaccine approved for adults over 65.

<http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm262390.htm>

4. FDA licenses Fluzone Intradermal influenza vaccine

On May 9th, the FDA announced the approval of a new influenza vaccine, Fluzone Intradermal. The Fluzone Intradermal, manufactured by Sanofi Pasteur, is administered as a single 0.1mL intradermal dose for adults ages 18-64 years. It will be supplied as a single dose, preservative-free, prefilled microinjection system.

The product will be available to healthcare providers in the U.S. for the 2011-2012 influenza season but it was not contracted by DoD this influenza season.

https://www.vaccineshoppe.com/image.cfm?doc_id=12427&image_type=product_pdf

[http://multivu.prnewswire.com/mnr/sanofipasteur/49833/docs/49833-Fluzone ID Fact Sheet.pdf](http://multivu.prnewswire.com/mnr/sanofipasteur/49833/docs/49833-Fluzone_ID_Fact_Sheet.pdf)

5. High Number of Reported Measles Cases in the US in 2011 - Linked to Outbreaks Abroad

On 22 June 2011, the CDC issued a health advisory that recommended health care providers ensure all patients are up to day on MMR vaccine. For those who will be traveling abroad, it is recommended that all US residents older than 6 months receive the MMR vaccine prior to departure.

The advisory states "The United States is experiencing a high number of reported measles cases in 2011, many of which were acquired during international travel. From January 1 through June 17 this year, 156 confirmed cases of measles were reported to CDC. This is the highest reported number since 1996. Most cases (136) were associated with importations from measles-endemic countries or countries where large outbreaks are occurring."

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/HAN/han00323.asp>

6. MILVAX Training Opportunities

MILVAX is thrilled to announce the approval of expanded continuing education credits! The Immunization Leaders Course (ILC) has been awarded 18 EMT CEU hours for all services by the Army EMS Program.

ILC

18 CME
18 CNE
18 EMT CEU

IBC

N/A CME
6.5 CNE
4.5/6(varies by service) EMT CEU

Immunization Basic Course

Camp Foster, Okinawa
26 Jul 2011

Oak Harbor, WA
16 Aug 2011

Naval Base San Diego, CA
13 Sep 2011

<http://www.vaccines.mil/ibc>

Immunization Leaders Course

Camp Foster, Okinawa
27-29 Jul 2011

Oak Harbor, WA
17-19 Aug 2011

Naval Base San Diego, CA
14-16 Sep 2011

<http://www.vaccines.mil/ilc>

For a complete description of all the courses offered by MILVAX please see the MILVAX website and check out the many education opportunities that are available within Immunization University.

<http://www.vaccines.mil/training>

7. Upcoming Conferences and Training Opportunities

Illinois Immunization & Communicable Disease Conference

8-9 Aug 2011

Normal, Illinois

<http://www.ipha.com/tabs/events/eventdetails.aspx?EventId=182>

2011 North Carolina Immunization Conference

10-12 Aug 2011

Greensboro, NC

<http://www.immunizenc.com/conference.htm>

ImVacS: The Immunotherapeutics & Vaccine Summit

16-18 Aug 2011

Cambridge, Massachusetts

<http://www.imvacs.com>

Epidemiology & Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases: 2 day CDC course

27-28 Sep 2011

Tacoma, WA

<http://cdc2day.eventbrite.com>

8. CME / CE Opportunity: Understanding Zoster

Understanding Zoster: Impact on the Individual and on Society

(Video 23 min)

Physicians - 0.5 AMA PRA Category 1 credits

Nurses - 0.5 ANCC Contact Hours

Credits valid until 28 Jun 2012

<http://www.medscape.org/nurses>

Military Vaccine Agency

<http://www.vaccines.mil>

<http://www.smallpox.mil>

<http://www.anthrax.mil>

(877)GET-VACC

<mailto:vaccines@amedd.army.mil>

Please feel free to pass this message on to your colleagues. Add or remove your name from this mailing list --

<http://www.vaccines.mil/ContactUs>