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IMMUNIZATION UPDATES - March/April 2012

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1. National Infant Immunization Week

21-28 April 2012 is National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) which is sponsored by the CDC. This is an annual observance to highlight the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases and celebrate the achievements of immunization programs and their partners in promoting healthy communities. What is your organization doing to promote NIIW? For more information and PR toolkits, key messages, promotional materials go to

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/events/niiw/index.html>

Please share pictures or comments of your NIIW activities with us on our facebook page, via email at vaccines@amedd.army.mil or through your MILVAX Regional Analyst.

2. FDA Announces Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Strains

The FDA has adopted the WHO seasonal influenza strain recommendations for the 2012-2013 season. Below are the strains selected for the inactivated and live vaccines.

- A/California/7/2009 (H1N1), which remains the same as last year
- A/Victoria/361/2011 (H3N2), which replaces A/Perth/16/2009
- B/Wisconsin/1/2010, which replaces B/Brisbane/60/2008

<http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/general/news/feb2812fda.html>

3. FDA Approves a Quadrivalent Seasonal Influenza Vaccine

On 29 February 2012 the FDA approved the first quadrivalent seasonal influenza vaccine licensed in the US. This vaccine contains four influenza virus strains: an A/H1N1 strain, an A/H3N2 strain and two B strains. The difference between the trivalent and quadrivalent vaccine is the addition of a second B strain. During a typical influenza season, there may be two different influenza B strains circulating, or the B strain selected for inclusion in the trivalent influenza vaccine may not be the influenza B strain that eventually circulates causing illness. The inclusion of a second B strain in FluMist Quadrivalent increases the likelihood of adequate protection against circulating influenza B strains.

The product is a live attenuated vaccine that is administered exactly like the trivalent product. The FluMist Quadrivalent is not expected to be available until the 2013-14 influenza season.

<http://www.fda.gov/BiologicsBloodVaccines/Vaccines/ApprovedProducts/ucm293952.htm>

4. Clarification of PCV13 use in Adults

In December 2011 the FDA approved Prevnar 13 (PCV13), a conjugate vaccine, for use in adults 50 yrs and older. The current ACIP pneumococcal vaccine recommendation is for adults 65 yrs and older and those with other medical indications to receive the polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV). Until the recommended adult immunization schedule is updated by the CDC it is recommended that PPSV be administered IAW the 2012 ACIP guidelines.

5. JE Vaccine Ordering Reminder

The JE Vaccine, IXIARO, is no longer available from the Pharmaceutical Prime Vendor (PPV) and is only available for ordering from Defense Depot Susquehanna Pennsylvania (DDSP). All orders must be a MILSTRIP order. Due to continued short

dating of product from the manufacturer most JEV will have between 6 and 12 month expiration dating when received. When placing orders and forecasting future demand, please plan accordingly. DLA Troop Support will continue to work with the manufacturer and provide updates to field when improved dating becomes available. DLA Troop Support POC for JEV ordering is available to answer any further questions at (215)737-5761.

6. Vaxicool Accountability Report (MMQC-12-1086)

On 10 Feb 2012 USAMMA issued a priority MMQC message requesting all organizations in control of an AX27L Vaxicool Refrigerator/Freezer submit an accountability report to USAMMA DOC. The report should include vaxicool operational status, quantity, serial number and the last test date. Widest dissemination of this message is requested to capture any and all areas that may be in control of a vaxicool. Recent reports of unserviceable units have prompted this accountability report. All reports should be emailed to USAMMA DOC at usammadoc@amedd.army.mil or faxed to (301)619-4468.

http://usamma.detrick.army.mil/ftp/mmqc_messages/Q121086.txt

7. MILVAX Training Opportunities

Immunization Basic Course

Camp Lejeune, NC
2 Apr 12

Joint Base Andrews, MD
17 Apr 12

Lovell Federal Health Care Center, IL
4 May 12

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

Immunization Leaders Course

Camp Lejeune, NC
3-5 Apr 12

Lovell Federal Health Care Center, IL

3-5 May 12

<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>

8. Upcoming Conferences

World Vaccine Congress
Washington DC
10-13 Apr 12

<http://www.terrapinn.com/conference/world-vaccine-congress-washington/>

Fifteenth Annual Conference on Vaccine Research
Sponsored by: National Foundation for Infectious Diseases
Baltimore, MD
7-9 May 12

<http://www.cvent.com/events/15th-annual-conference-on-vaccine-research/event-summary-217f59a0e65244738d89d9a68ad6a490.aspx>

Armed Forces Operational Medicine Symposium (AFOMS)
Jacksonville, FL
25-29 Jun 12

<http://www.idcafoundation.org/home/AFOMS-2012>

9. Crossword Puzzle: Do You Know the ACIP General Immunization Guidelines?

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

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. To add or remove your name from this mailing list, please click here -- <http://www.vaccines.mil/listserv>