



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE SURGEON GENERAL
5109 LEESBURG PIKE
FALLS CHURCH VA 22041

August 7, 2009

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Military Vaccine Agency

Welcome,

Annually, the Department of Defense (DoD), Military Vaccine (MILVAX) Agency and the Vaccine Healthcare Centers Network (VHCN) partner with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in supporting the National Immunization Month Awareness (NAIM) initiative during the month of August. (<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/events/niam/default.htm#oview>).

Immunizations play an important role in Armed Forces readiness. It is equally important to understand the role immunizations play throughout one's lifespan. Immunizations are the cornerstone of preventive medicine, ensuring protection against serious diseases. Immunization requirements affect us all, not only children and military Service members!

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for working with the CDC and DoD in sponsoring an event at your installation. We applaud your efforts in the tireless struggle to ensure immunization rates continue to climb, doing all we can to ensure adequate protection is provided against vaccine-preventable diseases.

We are proud to partner with each of you. We have developed tools to help you create your own immunization awareness campaign. Please utilize the toolbox to assist your efforts in increasing awareness regarding vaccines for Service members and their Families. Additional tools and resources can be found on our website at (www.vaccines.mil).

Again, thank you for your contribution in raising immunization awareness during the month of August. If you have any questions or additional information about DoD Immunization Awareness Month, please contact the MILVAX Agency on our toll-free information line at 1-877-GET-VACC or email us at vaccines@amedd.army.mil.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael J. Krukar".

Michael J. Krukar
Colonel, US Army
Director, Military Vaccine Agency