



NATIONAL CENTER ON  
Early Childhood Health and Wellness

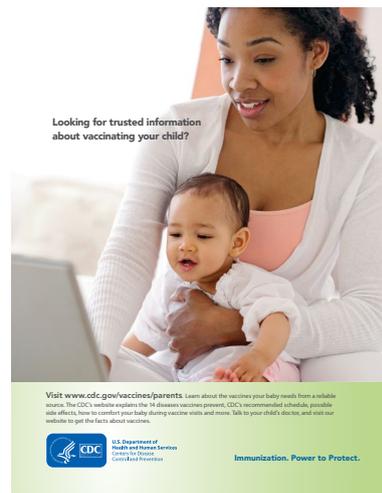


# Immunization: The Power to Protect

**N**ational Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) takes place every August. This campaign aims to raise awareness of the importance of vaccinating people of all ages against a number of serious and sometimes deadly diseases. It's also the beginning of back-to-school preparations and a good time to make sure children are properly vaccinated before they head back to school.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) will be doing its part to participate in the campaign with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through blogs, videos and social media. Stay tuned to the [AAP Immunization Campaigns webpage](#) for updated information and resources, including how you can participate in the AAP social media efforts to promote NIAM 2019.

Also, check out the [NIAM webpage of the CDC](#) for promotional materials, educational resources, and help planning your own NIAM event.





## AAP.org Immunization Webpages

AAP.org, the Web site of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), offers a wealth of information and resources related to childhood and adolescent immunization. Key resources of interest to early childhood staff include the following:

[Communicating with Families](#) – Despite vaccines’ success at preventing disease, some parents still question the necessity of vaccinating. There are many reasons that parents state for not vaccinating. Find resources to build confidence during conversations with parents on the importance of immunizations.

[Vaccine Preventable Diseases and Policy](#) – This page provides information and links to policy recommendations for vaccine preventable diseases.

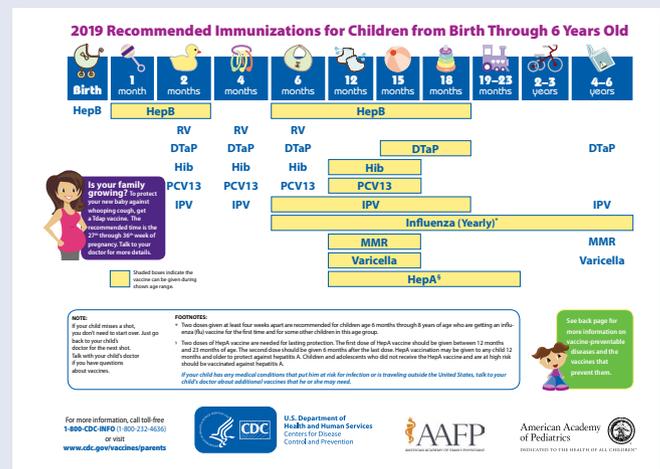
[Information for Parents and Caregivers](#) – Information on immunization specifically targeting parents and caregivers can be found on the AAP Consumer Website, [www.healthychildren.org](http://www.healthychildren.org).

## 2019 Immunization Schedules for Children and Adults

The [2019 Immunization Schedules for Children and Adults](#) are now available! Every year, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) develops recommendations for routine use of vaccines in children. When approved by the CDC Director, they become official CDC/HHS policy. The [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report](#) (MMWR) published a [summary of schedule changes](#) on February 10 for persons aged 0-18 years and 19 years or older.

CDC has also updated the following easy-to-read schedules for parents:

- [Children from birth through age 6](#) (English)
- [Children from birth through age 6](#) (Spanish)





## Educational and Promotional Resources from the CDC

The National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases at the CDC has made available educational resources and promotional materials to help supplement vaccine conversations and outreach with parents, pregnant women, and adults, as well as healthcare professionals.

[Visit this webpage](#) for toolkits, drop-in articles, digital media tools, videos, PSAs, fact sheets, and social media messages related to childhood, adolescent, maternal, adult, and flu immunization.

- Promote and link to [CDC's vaccine website for parents](#), which has useful information about immunization schedules, vaccines, vaccine-preventable diseases, and how to prepare for vaccine visits.
- Use the [Provider Resources for Vaccine Conversations with Parents](#) page to access information on [talking to parents about vaccines](#), [understanding vaccines and vaccine safety](#), and information related to the [14 vaccine-preventable diseases and the vaccines that prevent them](#).

- Promote the benefits of childhood immunization on your social media platforms using our [sample Facebook and Twitter posts](#).
- Share our [listicles and infographics](#) on your social media channels.
- Place a [drop-in article or web feature](#) on your website, or in your blog or newsletter.
- Display [posters](#) in clinic waiting rooms, child care centers, and other community settings to reach parents of young children.
- Run a [print ad](#) in community publications, parenting magazines, or your organizational newsletter.
- Download these radio and video [public service announcements](#) (available in English and Spanish) to promote on-time infant immunizations. Ask your local radio and television stations to play them at times of the day to reach parents of young children.

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

Use the information on [this page](#) to help answer common questions about infant vaccines. You can also access the CDC's FAQs in both English and Spanish.



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View other topics in the Embracing Health and Wellness Series on the Head Start Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center website: <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/health-services-management/article/embracing-health-wellness-series>

**Our Goal:** To help Head Start and Early Head Start programs implement best practices and effective approaches within the areas of medical and dental care access, health awareness, healthy active living, emergency preparedness, and environmental safety to support healthy outcomes and school readiness for young children and their families.

**Contact Us:** The National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness welcomes your feedback as well as your suggestions for topics for future resources! Please forward your comments to: [health@ecetta.info](mailto:health@ecetta.info) or call us at 888-227-5125.

***School readiness begins with health!***