

Adolescent Immunization Action Week (#AIAW23)

April 3 to 7 is AIAW. The week encourages action to ensure adolescents are up to date on well visits and immunizations. For more information, tools, and resources to participate visit [Adolescent Immunization Action Week 2023 \(www.unity4teenvax.org/aiaw23/\)](http://www.unity4teenvax.org/aiaw23/). Visit [We Vax Teens: For Health Care Providers Serving Adolescents \(www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/hcp/adol.html\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/hcp/adol.html) for resources on improving on-time HPV vaccination along with other routinely recommended vaccines.

National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW)

NIIW is April 24 to 30. The purpose of the week is to highlight the importance of protecting children two years and younger from vaccine preventable diseases (VPDs). To learn more, visit [National Infant Immunization Week \(NIIW\) \(www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/hcp/niiw.html\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/hcp/niiw.html) and for key messages, a digital media toolkit and more the [CDC: National Infant Immunization Week \(NIIW\) \(www.cdc.gov/vaccines/events/niiw/index.html\)](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/events/niiw/index.html).

Immunization Champion Award

The Association of Immunization Managers (AIM) is excited to launch the 2023 Immunization Champion Award this spring. The award is for individuals doing exemplary work in any vaccine category throughout the lifespan. Self-nominations are welcome.

The nomination period opens on April 17 and closes on May 19. Download the nomination packet from [AIM:Champion Awards \(www.aim.org/about-aim/awards/champion-awards/\)](http://www.aim.org/about-aim/awards/champion-awards/). Please submit a photo and the completed narrative form. To send your nomination for the Minnesota Champion Award or questions, contact Melody Doan (melody.doan.contractor@state.mn.us) or Becky Neudecker (becky.neudecker@state.mn.us).

HPV vaccination webinar series

The National HPV Vaccination Roundtable and the American Cancer Society are launching the Catalyzing Your Communication to Increase HPV Vaccination webinar series beginning in April. To learn more about these free webinars and to register visit [HPV Roundtable Forum Flyer \(https://hpvroundtable.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/HPV_RT_Forum-Flyer.pdf\)](https://hpvroundtable.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/HPV_RT_Forum-Flyer.pdf).

Use your immunization tools to avoid vaccine errors

CDC's immunization schedules, including the notes and catch-up schedule, are the best tools to determine the immunizations needed and the appropriate intervals. MIIC's forecaster can assist vaccinating providers in quickly assessing what is needed and when to return for immunizations but should be used alongside of the CDC schedule.

As the immunization schedules become more complex and new vaccine products are added, best practice recommends utilizing all your tools to avoid vaccine errors. [CDC: Pink Book \(www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/index.html\)](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/index.html) appendices, [ACIP Vaccine Recommendations and Guidelines \(www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/index.html\)](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/index.html), and [Immunize.org Ask the Experts \(www.immunize.org/askexperts/\)](http://www.immunize.org/askexperts/) are good tools to support you in your assessment.

Intramuscular or subcutaneous administration for MMR II vaccine

FDA approved the expansion of administration routes for Merck's MMR II vaccine. MMR II may be given by either the subcutaneous (SC) or intramuscular (IM) route. This expansion does not include the new MMR product, Priorix, which should be administered SC. Remind

staff to be alert to which MMR product the clinic is using so that it is given by the indicated route.

MIIC user survey

MIIC is excited to send out a MIIC user survey in April. The survey will be emailed to MIIC users and will cover many of MIIC's features and programs. Survey responses will be used to inform enhancements to MIIC as well as our robust user guidance/training program. If you have any questions email the MIIC Help Desk at health.miichelp@state.mn.us.

MIIC spring webinar series

Please join us for a MIIC webinar series. Four separate sessions will be held on Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. starting April 19. Use the links listed below to register for each session. MIIC staff will be covering several aspects of MIIC and will save time for questions at the end of each session. We hope you are able to join us.

- **Webinar 1:** April 19 will cover participating and logging into MIIC, changing your password and managing clients. [Use this link to register for the April 19 Microsoft Teams Webinar](#)
- **Webinar 2:** April 26 will cover searching for a client, reviewing their immunization history and the MIIC forecaster. [Use this link to register for the April 26 Microsoft Teams Webinar](#)
- **Webinar 3:** May 10 will cover electronic data exchange, editing immunizations, Bulk Query and special reports. [Use this link to register for the May 10 Microsoft Teams Webinar](#)
- **Webinar 4:** May 17 will cover assessment reports for understanding immunization coverage and client follow up (CFU) for obtaining information about clients' overdue/recommended immunizations. [Use this link to register for the May 17 Microsoft Teams Webinar](#)

If you have any questions or need registration links email the MIIC Help Desk at health.miichelp@state.mn.us.

MIIC texting program for reminder/recall

Enroll in the MIIC texting program for immunization reminder/recall. This program is free to providers in Minnesota and uses MIIC data to identify individuals in need of immunizations. Organizations currently participating include local public health, health systems, pharmacies, and federally qualified health centers (FQHCs). Providers who opt into the program are encouraged to include information in a text message to help clients obtain a vaccination appointment. This usually entails a provider's phone number and a link to an online appointment scheduler. The text messages are also available in Spanish, Somali and Hmong and translations are automatically sent to clients when they reply to the text message. Providers can choose to send reminders about routine or COVID-19 vaccines. If your organization would like to participate, reach out to the MIIC Help Desk at health.miichelp@state.mn.us. We would love to partner with you to help improve immunization rates in MN.

Travelers health newsletter

Subscribe to our traveler's health newsletter for the latest materials and resources and important travel-related infectious disease information from the Minnesota Department of Health. To learn more about traveler's health visit [International Travel and Infectious Disease \(www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/travel/index.html\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/travel/index.html) and to subscribe to the newsletter go to [Minnesota Department of Health's Email Updates \(https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MNMDH/subscriber/new?topic_id=MNMDH_729%C2%A0\)](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MNMDH/subscriber/new?topic_id=MNMDH_729%C2%A0).