

# MEDICAL ASSISTANCE BULLETIN

<b>ISSUE DATE</b> February 20, 2009	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b> January 1, 2009	<b>NUMBER</b> *See Below
<b>SUBJECT</b> 2009 Recommended Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedules	 Michael Nardone, Deputy Secretary Office of Medical Assistance Programs	

## **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this bulletin is to issue the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Recommended Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedules, United States, 2009, for Medical Assistance (MA) recipients under 19 years of age served by providers enrolled in the MA Program. This bulletin supersedes MA Bulletins, 01-08-04, 08-08-04, 09-08-05, 31-08-07 and 33-08-03, issued March 21, 2008.

## **SCOPE:**

This bulletin applies to all providers enrolled in the MA Program who administer immunizations, including providers participating in the MA fee-for-service or managed care delivery systems.

## **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:**

As stated in 55 Pa.Code § 1241.42(2), the Department of Public Welfare (Department) is authorized to issue immunization guidelines based on recommendations of recognized medical organizations involved in children's health care. To assure that MA eligible children are receiving immunizations that conform to nationally recognized standards, the Department is updating its immunization guidelines to conform to the attached Recommended Immunization Schedule for Persons Aged 0 through 6 Years, the Recommended Immunization Schedule for Persons Aged 7 through 18 Years and the Catch-up Immunization Schedule for Persons Aged 4 Months through 18 Years Who Start Late or Who are More Than 1 Month Behind. The recommended immunization schedules for persons aged 0 through 18 years and the catch-up immunization schedule, United States, 2009, have been approved by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Academy of Family Physicians.

\*01-09-04 , 08-09-04 , 09-09-04 , 31-09-05 , 33-09-02

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

The appropriate toll free number for your provider type.

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs Web site at [www.dpw.state.pa.us/omap](http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/omap)

**PROCEDURE:**

Providers enrolled in the MA Program should use the attached immunization schedules. These immunization schedules are current with the changes in vaccine formulations and recommendations for the use of licensed vaccines. The changes to the 2008 Immunization Schedule as stated in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) Volume 57, Number 51 and 52 as published January 2, 2009 and MMWR Erratum as published January 9, 2009, are highlighted as follows:

- Recommendations for rotavirus vaccines include changes for the maximum age for the first dose (14 weeks 6 days) and the maximum age for the final dose of the series (8 months 0 days). The rotavirus footnote indicates that if RV1 (Rotarix<sup>®</sup>) is administered at ages 2 and 4 months, a dose at 6 months is not indicated.
- Routine annual influenza vaccination is recommended for all children aged 6 months through 18 years.
- Children aged younger than 9 years who are receiving influenza vaccine for the first time or who were vaccinated for the first time during the previous season but only received 1 dose should receive 2 doses of influenza vaccine at least 4 weeks apart. Healthy non-pregnant persons aged 2 through 49 years may receive either live attenuated influenza vaccine or inactivated influenza vaccine.
- The minimum interval between tetanus and diphtheria toxoids (Td) and tetanus and diphtheria toxoids and acellular pertussis vaccine (Tdap) for persons aged 10 years through 18 years is addressed. An interval less than 5 years may be used if pertussis immunity is needed.
- Information about the use of *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) conjugate vaccine among persons aged 5 years and older at increased risk for invasive Hib disease has been added. Use of Hib vaccine for these persons is not contraindicated.
- Catch-up vaccination with human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine is clarified. Routine dosing intervals should be used for series catch-up (i.e., the second and third doses should be administered 2 and 6 months after the first dose). The third dose should be given at least 24 weeks after the first dose.
- Abbreviations for rotavirus, pneumococcal polysaccharide and meningococcal polysaccharide vaccines have been changed.

Providers should carefully review the 2009 schedules for detailed information on the appropriate dosages and ages for the administration of vaccines, and replace their current immunization schedule with the attached immunization schedules.

The National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act requires that health-care providers provide parents or patients with copies of Vaccine Information Statements before administering each

dose of the vaccines listed in the schedule. Additional information is available from state health departments and from the CDC at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/default.htm>.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Recommended Immunization Schedule for Persons Aged 0 Through 6 Years, United States, 2009.
- Recommended Immunization Schedule for Persons Aged 7 Through 18 Years, United States, 2009.
- Catch-up Immunization Schedule for Persons Aged 4 Months Through 18 Years Who Start Late or Who Are More Than 1 Month Behind, United States, 2009.