Beginning July 8th the Iowa Department of Public Health Immunization Program will be presenting regional Vaccine University classes. The summer Vaccine University is offering three classes:

**Vaccine 101**— a basic course in the immunization schedule including application of the immunization schedule in real live scenarios;

**Vaccine Storage & Handling**— back by popular demand, this class will be a repeat of the class offered in November focusing on how to protect your vaccine supply, proper temperatures, storage and handling, and vaccine emergency response plan;

**IRIS Training**— a basic introduction to the IRIS program and hands on work within the program to learn about vaccine accountability, vaccine ordering, inventory, and user/preference lists.

There is no fee for the classes and CEUs will be offered for nurses and CMAs.

Space is limited so sign up early. For additional information on classes, or to register, visit: [http://www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/immunization.asp](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/immunization.asp)
On May 14, 2008, the Iowa Immunization Advisory Committee met to review proposed changes to Iowa Administrative Code 641.7: Immunization and Immunization Education: Persons Attending Elementary or Secondary Schools, Licensed Child Care Centers or Institutions of Higher Education. Proposed changes to Chapter 7 include:

- Clarification of the definition for “certified medical assistant” and add a definition for “student.” The amendments further explain the use of medical and religious exemptions.
- Guidelines are provided on how to complete the Certificate of Immunization and Provisional Certificate of Immunization.
- Detail as to who is required to sign a Provisional Certificate of Immunization is included. This amendment also removes the requirement of a school or child care to offer a meeting to parents prior to a child’s provisional enrollment expiration and replaces it with the requirement for written explanation of rules regarding provisional enrollment.
- Amendments clarify the need for a second Provisional Certificate of Immunization in the circumstance that a provisional certificate expires due to a minimum interval.
- The description of who can provide immunization record information to whom has been clarified.

Finally, the immunization requirements are updated to more accurately reflect the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) as well as the inclusion of required immunization for invasive pneumococcal disease for children enrolling in licensed child care centers (per HF245).

More information regarding the proposed changes to Chapter 7, as well as the rule making process will be available soon. To review Chapter 7 as it stands now visit: http://www.legis.state.ia.us/Rules/Current/iac/641iac/6417/6417.pdf

Questions should be directed to Bridget Konz, 800-831-6293, ext 7 or bkonz@idph.state.ia.us.

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**Question Corner**

**After an adult has either been infected with or exposed to pertussis, is vaccination with Tdap recommended, and if so when?** Yes. Adults who have a history of pertussis disease generally should receive Tdap according to the routine recommendation. In the U.S., two Tdap products are licensed for use. Adacel® (sanofi pasteur) is licensed for use in persons age 11–64 years, and Boostrix® (GlaxoSmithKline), is licensed for persons age 10–18 years. This practice is recommended because the duration of protection induced by pertussis disease is unknown (waning might begin as early as 7 years after infection) and because diagnosis of pertussis can be difficult to confirm, particularly with tests other than culture for *B. pertussis*. Administering pertussis vaccine to persons with a history of pertussis presents no theoretical risk. For details, visit CDC’s published recommendations on this topic at www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr5517.pdf (pages 24–25).

**Can a booster dose of Tdap be given to persons age 65 years and older?** No brand of Tdap is approved by FDA for persons age 65 years and older. ACIP does not recommend off-label use of Tdap for this age group. However, a clinician may choose to administer Tdap to a person age 65 years or older if both patient and clinician agree that the benefit of Tdap outweighs the risk of a local adverse event.

Source: Immunization Action Coalition (Vaccinate Women Volume 7- Number, June 2008)
Tiered Ordering Frequency for VFC

Transitioning to McKesson for centralized vaccine distribution has required providers to implement a Tiered Ordering Frequency (TOF). TOF is a provider ordering schedule identifying the number of orders providers should place each year.

CDC established each provider’s TOF based on annual historic doses distributed reports. Based on those reports, providers were classified in TOFs of monthly, every other month, or quarterly.

The goal of TOF is to balance shipping costs with inventory and potential wastage costs to lower the total cost of distribution.

TOF guidelines also serve as a means to decrease manual ordering processes associated with vaccine orders. Adherence to your TOF is best accomplished by the following steps:

1. Take a complete inventory of vaccine on hand.
2. Look ahead to what is planned (i.e. flu clinics, back to school).
3. Review previous doses administered reports for indications of seasonal use.
4. Place the order for ALL vaccines that will be needed in the TOF timeframe.

If you do not know your TOF, or have questions regarding doses administered data, please contact Janean Iddings at 800-831-6293, ext 5.

Nonviable Vaccine?

Expired or wasted vaccines must be returned to McKesson. Do not send them to the Iowa Department of Public Health as we do not have the facility to store or ship these vaccines. To return nonviable vaccine follow these steps:

1. Complete the Nonviable Return Form (found on our web page: http://www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/vaccines_for_children.asp). State the reason vaccine is nonviable – see return code reasons listed below AND document if these vaccines were transferred to you from another Iowa VFC clinic by listing the original clinic name and VFC PIN.
2. Label the vaccine “nonviable” to avoid unintentional use and write “Non-viable Vaccine Enclosed” on the box.
3. With the completed form: a) make a copy for your records, b) fax a copy to the Immunization Program at 1-800-831-6292, and c) include the original with the returned vaccine.
4. Pack the vaccine to protect it from breakage. Cold packs are not necessary, as nonviable doses will never be administered.

Wasted and expired vaccine should be returned using the McKesson insulated containers and the supplied return postage label. If you do not have a McKesson shipping box available, pack the nonviable vaccine into a box and return it to: McKesson Specialty Distribution, 4853 Crumpler Road, Memphis, Tennessee 38141. It is not necessary to ship vaccine by priority mail.

If you have additional questions, please contact Janean Iddings at 800-831-6293, ext 5.
In 2005, two tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid, and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccines were licensed and recommended for use in adults and adolescents in the United States.

Both Tdap vaccines are licensed for single-dose use to add protection against pertussis and to replace the next dose of tetanus and diphtheria toxoids vaccine (Td) for all adults and adolescents, including women of childbearing age. However, the safety and efficacy of Tdap in pregnant women has not been demonstrated.

The ACIP recommends Tdap for postpartum women at delivery before leaving the hospital or birthing center to boost their protection for pertussis and to reduce the risk of transmitting pertussis to the infant, if they have not previously had a dose of Tdap.

Some pregnant women due for a Td booster will have sufficient tetanus and diphtheria protection to allow the Td during pregnancy to be deferred to substitute Tdap at delivery. However, until additional information is available, the ACIP has reaffirmed its current recommendation to use Td (rather than Tdap) in pregnant women if they are due for vaccination to prevent matern- or neonatal tetanus, or to prevent diphtheria and do not have sufficient protection until delivery.

The ACIP continues to encourage adults and adolescents, who might come in contact with an infant (e.g., fathers, grandparents, child care providers) to have the Tdap dose before the usual 10 years between Td boosters, to decrease their chance of getting pertussis and transmitting it to the infant. The recommendations released in the MMWR further addresses these issues: http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr57e0514a1.htm
VAERS Reporting

The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) is a national vaccine safety surveillance program co-sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). VAERS collects and analyzes information from reports of adverse events following immunization.

Since 1990, VAERS has received over 123,000 reports, most of which describe mild side effects such as fever. Very rarely, people experience serious adverse events following immunization. By monitoring such events, VAERS can help to identify important new safety concerns.

Who can file a VAERS report? Anyone can submit a VAERS report. Most reports are sent in by vaccine manufacturers (42%) and health care providers (30%). The rest are submitted by state immunization programs (12%), vaccine recipients or their parent/guardians (7%), and other sources (9%).

What adverse events should be reported? VAERS encourages the reporting of any clinically significant adverse event that occurs after the administration of any vaccine licensed in the United States. Report such events even if you are unsure whether a vaccine caused them.

The National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act (NCVIA) requires health care providers to report:

- Any event listed by the vaccine manufacturer as a contraindication to subsequent doses of the vaccine.
- Any event listed in the Reportable Events Table that occurs within the specified time period after vaccination.

A copy of the Reportable Events Table can be found in the CDC Pink Book or obtained by calling VAERS at 1-800-822-7967 or by downloading it from http://vaers.hhs.gov/pubs.htm.

Filing a VAERS report: Use a VAERS report form to report any adverse event.

You can get pre-addressed postage paid report forms by calling VAERS at 1-800-822-7967, or download a printable copy of the VAERS form from the following Internet sites: http://vaers.hhs.gov/ www.fda.gov/cber/vaers/vaers.htm
www.cdc.gov/vaccines/

Instructions are included with the form. You may use a photocopy of the VAERS form to submit a report. For more information:

- Send e-mail inquiries to info@vaers.org
- Visit the VAERS Web site at: http://vaers.hhs.gov
- Call the toll-free VAERS information line at (800) 822-7967
- Fax inquiries to the toll-free information fax line at (877) 721-0366

For information regarding VAERS at the Iowa Immunization Program, contact Terri Thornton at 1-800-831-6293, ext 2
**Vaccine 101 Class**  
(Vaccine 101 Class offered in the morning only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Registration and sign in for CEUs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>Introductions, overview of day, and CEU information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45</td>
<td>Principles of Vaccination</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Using and Understanding Immunization Schedules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45</td>
<td>Vaccine Administration Scenarios</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45</td>
<td>Wrap up and evaluations/CEUs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Adjourn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Storage & Handling Class**  
(Storage & Handling Class offered in the afternoon only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>Registration and sign in for CEUs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00</td>
<td>Introductions, overview of day, and CEU information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15</td>
<td>Storage Units &amp; Temperature Monitoring Devices</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15</td>
<td>Planning: Routine and Emergency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00</td>
<td>Q and A session</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:15</td>
<td>Wrap up and evaluations/CEUs</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30</td>
<td>Adjourn</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**IRIS Class**  
(IRIS Class offered in the morning and afternoon)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Registration and sign in for CEUs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30</td>
<td>Introductions, overview of day, and CEU information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45</td>
<td>Clinic user list and preference lists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Inventory and vaccine accountability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45</td>
<td>Methods to record Immunizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:20</td>
<td>How to order VFC vaccines through IRIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:50</td>
<td>Wrap up and evaluations/CEUs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Adjourn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Conference Objectives**
- Attending the Vaccine 101 class will enable the participant to:
  - Identify proper use of the recommended immunization schedule and catch-up schedule.
  - Discuss the routine vaccination schedule for children.
  - Apply knowledge of immunization schedule to determine vaccination need on an individual case basis.
  - Discuss basic requirements for beginning vaccination, contraindications and precautions, dosing, recommended intervals, and grace period.

- Attending the Storage and Handling class will enable the participant to:
  - Discuss action steps to protect vaccine in a clinic setting.
  - Discuss the impact of improperly stored vaccine.
  - Identify correct vaccine storage temperatures and appropriate handling of vaccine.
  - Create a vaccine emergency response plan for a clinic.

- Attending the IRIS class will enable the participant to:
  - Identify how to add manually clinic user list and preference lists.
  - Demonstrate two methods to recode immunizations in a patient record.
  - Demonstrate the ability to use the inventory features in IRIS.
  - Demonstrate the ability to order VFC vaccines through IRIS.
  - Demonstrate how IRIS will increase vaccine accountability.

**Presenters**
- Terrica Thornton, RNC, Iowa Department of Public Health
- Bridget Knez, RN, Iowa Department of Public Health
- Kim Tichy, BS, CHES, Iowa Department of Public Health

**Conference Topics**
Speakers will share the latest information regarding vaccine administration, schedule use, vaccine storage and handling, and the IRIS program. This event also provides attendees an opportunity to network with health care professionals involved with immunizations and vaccine preventable diseases.

**Who Should Attend**
This conference is intended for a diverse field of health care professionals including: pharmacists, nurses, certified medical assistants, medical assistants, office and support staff, administrative staff, medical and nursing students, and anyone who is responsible for vaccine accountability, storage and handling, or administration.

**Registration**
This conference is offered free of charge. Registration will include course materials and continuing education credits for nurses and CMAs who are members of the American Association of Medical Assistants (AAMA). Certified Medical Assistants who are not members of the AAMA are eligible for continuing education credits at a cost of $20.00 paid by the participant. Registration will be closed one week prior to each training. For more information call (515) 281-7228.

Register online at [www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/immunization.asp](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/immunization.asp)

Or mail attached registration form to: Bridget Knez, IDPH, Immunization Program, 321 East 12th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319. Confirmation will be sent electronically to those who provide an email address and register by the deadline. Directions to each site are available online at [www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/immunization.asp](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/immunization.asp).

**Continuing Education**
Upon completion of the following:
- Nurses will be granted .6 CEUs for Vaccine 101 class, .2 CEUs for Storage and Handling class, and .2 CEUs for IRIS class by the Iowa Department of Human Services, approved by the IRIS as a provider of continuing education for nurses. Iowa Provider #94.
- Certified Medical Assistants will be granted 4 hour CEUs for Vaccine 101 class, 2.5 hour CEUs for Storage and Handling class, and 2.5 hour CEUs for IRIS class by the American Association of Medical Assistants. No partial CEUs will be awarded.

**Sponsor**
This program is sponsored by the Iowa Department of Public Health, Immunization Program.

**Conference Information**
Casual dress is appropriate. Participants are reminded to bring a sweater or jacket as the temperature in the meeting room may vary.