2016 U.S. Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedules Published

Each year, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) reviews the current recommended immunization schedules for children and teens birth through 18 years of age to ensure the schedule reflects current recommendations for licensed vaccines. The 2016 Recommended Immunization Schedules for Persons Aged 0 through 18 Years are now available on the CDC website at: http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/downloads/child/0-18yrs-child-combined-schedule.pdf.

Changes to the 2016 childhood and adolescent schedule from the previous schedules include:

- In figure 1 of the schedule, the order of the vaccines was changed to group vaccines by the recommended age of administration. The order was also changed within the footnotes.

- A purple bar was added for Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) vaccine for children aged 5–18 years, denoting the recommendation to vaccinate certain high-risk children in this age group who are unimmunized.

- A purple bar was added for human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine for children aged 9–10 years, denoting the recommendation to vaccinate high-risk children in this age group, including children with a history of sexual abuse.

- A new row has been added for meningococcal B (MenB) vaccine. This row contains a purple bar denoting the recommendation to vaccinate certain high-risk persons aged 10 years and older. This row also contains a blue bar denoting the recommendation for administration to non-high-risk groups subject to individual clinical decision making, for persons aged 16 through 23 years (the preferred age range is 16–18 years).

- In figure 2, "Catch-up immunization schedule for persons aged 4 months through 18 years who start late or who are more than 1 month behind", Tdap/Td was added to the list of possible previous vaccines in the Tdap line for children aged 7 years and older, dose 2 to dose 3 column.

The Recommended Immunization Schedule for Adults, United States, 2016 is available online at http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/downloads/adult/adult-combined-schedule.pdf.

2016: The Year of Preventing Cancer Together!

The new year brings a fresh start and fresh opportunities to prioritize HPV vaccination. Now is the time to make changes and minimize missed opportunities! There are many effective ways to increase HPV vaccine coverage rates:

- Talk about HPV vaccination in terms of cancer prevention.
- Avoid missed opportunities to give HPV by recommending HPV vaccination the same way and on the same day as Tdap and MCV.
- Learn how to communicate successfully about HPV vaccination. Tips for answering questions parents may have can be found at: http://www.cdc.gov/hpv/hcp/answering-questions.html
- Use adolescent vaccination messaging for practice hold lines. Consider trying these five sample messages, available at: http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/who/teens/hcp/adolescent-messaging.html

Visit CDC’s updated HPV Web Portal, www.cdc.gov/hpv, to find more resources such as Immunization Safety Office safety factsheets and clinician factsheets.

Watch ’You Call the Shots’ HPV module and earn CE credit.

Vaccine-Preventable Disease Cards Available to Order

“Vaccine-Preventable Diseases”, a set of 13 informational cards, are available again for ordering. These cards are a resource for clinicians when talking to parents who question the need for vaccines or any parent who is not familiar with the childhood vaccine-preventable diseases. Each 5 by 7 inch card contains a photograph of an individual with one of the vaccine-preventable diseases and information on the disease and the vaccine to prevent it.

The cards are printed on water- and tear-resistant paper for repeated long term use. These cards are not for distribution to parents, but are intended to be kept in exam rooms. Please order enough sets to stock your exam rooms. Send an e-mail indicating the number of sets needed along with your clinic name and shipping address to: susanm@health.ok.gov.