VFC Consultant On-Call
The Consultant for August 4th through August 10th, 2018 is Becky Prall at (Becky.Prall@ks.gov) or by calling 785-296-5592

Chief Chat— We apologize for this week’s What’s Happening Wednesday being late in publication. We have been juggling multiple deadlines and priorities and have been unable to meet our usual publication deadline. We appreciate your understanding and will strive to not allow this to happen often.

We continue to have some intermittent internet and email access issues at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) which have caused limited down time unexpectedly for KSWebIZ as well as impacting our staff’s ability to respond to providers. If you become aware of issues that are not resolved quickly, please contact our offices by phone. The KSWebIZ helpdesk phone (877-296-0464) is the easiest way to reach us quickly. Our Information Technology staff within the agency is working to resolve all issues as quickly as possible.

Vaccines give parents the power to protect their children from serious diseases. One of the most important things a parent can do to protect their child’s health is getting their child vaccinated according to the recommended immunization schedule.

Vaccines protect babies from 14 diseases by the time they reach 2 years of age. It is very important that babies receive recommended doses of each vaccine and receive each vaccination on time. After 6 months of age, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends children receive a yearly flu vaccine. Children 6 months through 8 years of age who are getting the flu vaccine for the first time should get two doses of flu vaccine, spaced at least 28 days apart. Children are also due for additional doses of vaccines between 4 and 6 years of age. If a child falls behind the recommended immunization schedule, the child’s doctor can still give vaccines to “catch up” the child before adolescence.

Child care facilities, preschool programs and schools are prone to disease outbreaks. Children in these settings can easily spread illnesses to one another due to poor hand washing, not covering their coughs and sneezes, and other factors related to interacting in crowded environments.

Unvaccinated children are not only at increased risk for disease, but they can also spread disease to others in their play groups, child care centers, classroom, and communities – including babies who are too young to be fully vaccinated and people who might not be able to receive certain vaccines due to cancer or other health conditions.

Have a great week and thanks for all you do to immunize Kansans!
Phil Griffin, Deputy Director, Bureau of Disease Control and Prevention

Vax Facts

There have been a lot of questions about how quickly your temperatures will be approved after you upload them to KSWebIZ. When you upload your temperatures, they need to be manually approved. They are not automatically approved when you upload them. We receive an email three times a day (7:30am, 1pm, and 4pm) with the most recent temperature readings for every VFC provider. We always get to the 7:30am and 1pm emails the same day. However, if it is a busy day and we are uploading orders and returns, we do not always get to the 4pm email. This means that if you submit your times after 1pm, you may have to wait until the next morning (by 10am is normally a safe bet) before you can place an order. If your temps are submitted on a Friday, this means that it may be Monday morning before your temperatures are approved. Thank you for your patience in allowing us time to get you approved for monthly ordering.
Injection of Education-

During our recent Kansas Immunization Program – Knowledge Injection Series webinar, there were questions regarding the Tdap schedule, specifically related to the Kansas school immunization requirements, that we want to address.

The 2018-2019 Kansas School Immunization Requirement letter for grades Kindergarten – 12th grade states, “A single dose of Tdap is required at Grades 7-12 if no previous history of Tdap vaccination regardless of interval since the last Td.”

Both presentations of Tdap, Adacel and Boostrix, are indicated for administration in those 10-64 years of age for Adacel and 10 years of age and older for Boostrix. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) also allows for the use of Adacel or Boostrix during immunization catch up for children 7 years and older that have not completed their DTaP series.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) 2018 Recommended Immunization Schedule for Children and Adolescents provides guidance regarding children that have received Tdap prior to 11 years of age. Footnote 13 from the Recommended Immunization Schedule states, “Children 7-10 years who receive Tdap inadvertently or as part of the catch-up series may receive the routine Tdap dose at 11-12 years.”

So, what does that mean for you? If a child is current on the vaccination schedule and has received a dose of Tdap between 7-10 years of age this dose technically meets the Kansas school immunization requirement. However, the physician and/or school may still require that another dose of Tdap be administered between grades 7-12 even though a dose was given between 7-10 years of age.

The CDC has provided job aids, to be used in conjunction with the Recommended Immunization Schedule, that will assist providers in determining the correct administration schedule for DTaP/DT/Tdap/Td:


National Immunization Awareness Month

August is National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAW). We encourage you to visit the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) NIAW website to find toolkits for communications ready to use for weekly theme. These kits contain samples of key messages, news releases, Facebook posts, tweets and a variety of other resources. The remaining weekly themes are:

August 5-11 Pregnant Women: Protect yourself and pass protection on to your baby.
August 12-18 Babies and Young Children: A healthy start begins with on-time vaccinations.
August 19-25 Preteens & Teens: Ensure a healthy future with vaccines.
August 26-31 Adults: Vaccines are not just for kids.

Check out our Facebook Page-

Thanks to all of you who LIKE our page, we are almost up to 600 “Likes”. We appreciate all of your support and hard work vaccinating Kansans from vaccine preventable diseases! We can be found by clicking on the Facebook logo or link below. Please make sure and share our posts and like our page while you are there. https://www.facebook.com/ImmunizeKS/
CDC Releases Clinical Guide for Providers During Shingrix Shortage–

In light of the current shortage of recombinant zoster vaccine (Shingrix; GSK), CDC has added the following Q&A to its "Frequently Asked Questions About Shingrix" web page:

Q: What is the clinical guidance during the Shingrix delay?

A: Shingrix is the preferred shingles vaccine. You and patients should make every effort to ensure that two doses are administered within the recommended interval. If more than 6 months have elapsed since the first dose, administer the second dose when possible. Do not restart the vaccine series, and do not substitute Zostavax (zoster vaccine live) for the second dose of Shingrix. If you are out of Shingrix and a patient needs a second dose, the Vaccine Finder may be helpful for patients to locate other providers that have Shingrix.

CDC still recommends Zostavax for healthy adults 60 years and older to prevent shingles. This shingles vaccine may be used in certain cases, such as when a person prefers Zostavax or requests immediate vaccination and Shingrix is unavailable. Patients who have received Zostavax are recommended to vaccinate with Shingrix (minimum interval of 8 weeks).

National Immunization Awareness Month–Vaccines Across the Lifespan

August is National Immunization Awareness Month, an observance to highlight the importance of vaccination for people of all ages. From pregnant women to children to the elderly and everyone in between, timely immunizations are one of the most important ways to protect patients from serious diseases. Whether it's a parent making the decision to vaccinate their child or an adult deciding to get their own vaccines, an effective clinician recommendation is the most powerful predictor of vaccination.

Thus, it's key for clinicians to make effective vaccine recommendations. During this webinar, two practicing family physicians will discuss how they talk about vaccines and address common questions for all of their patients. Dr. John Merrill-Steskal is a family physician in Ellensburg, Washington. He is affiliated with Kittitas Valley Healthcare and is a Clinical Instructor for The University of Washington. Dr. Jeffrey Moore is a family physician in Merrill, Wisconsin. He is affiliated with Marshfield Clinic, where he has held a family practice position since 1988.

This webinar will be held from Noon to 1pm CT on Friday August 17, 2018
Click here to register:  https://cc.readytalk.com/registration/#/?meeting=86fxtlg7w47&campaign=r291zcuf9lrh

By the end of this webinar, participants will be able to:
*Learn effective strategies for recommending vaccines for patients of all ages
*Find tips for addressing common questions and/or concerns about vaccines
*Identify strategies to ensure the whole office is communicating consistently about vaccines to all patients

Study on Vaccination Practices of Adult Immunization Providers–

A new study has been published that describes clinicians’ and pharmacists’ self-reported implementation of the Standards for Adult Immunization Practice. This report highlights gaps in access to vaccines recommended for adults across the spectrum of provider specialties. Greater implementation of the Standards by all providers could improve adult vaccination rates in the U.S. by reducing missed opportunities to recommend vaccinations and either vaccinate or refer patients to vaccine providers.  Click here to access the study.
**Aggregate Inventory Training**

The Aggregate Inventory Training occurs every Monday from 1p-2p, and the first Friday of every month from 10:30a-11:30a. This call will go over the basics of the On Hand, Reconciliation submission, Vaccine Ordering and Return windows in KSWebIZ for Aggregate Users. Bring questions and examples of issues that your clinic is having with the end of the month reporting. **Please note: this call is for KSWebIZ Aggregate (HL-7) Users Only!**

Register now for the date that works best for you!
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/659870511102500354

**Direct Entry Inventory Training**

The Direct Entry Inventory Training occurs every Tuesday from 1p-2p, and the first Friday of every month from 12p-1p. This call will go over the basics of the On Hand screen, Reconciliation submission, and Vaccine Ordering and Return windows in KSWebIZ. Bring questions and examples of issues that your clinic is having with the end of the month reporting. **Please note: this call is for KSWebIZ Direct Entry Users Only!**

Register now for the date that works best for you!
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/4121654947304535298

**New User Training**

The New User Training occurs every Thursday from 2p-3p, and the second Friday of every month from 12p-1p. This basic training is for new KSWebIZ users, or people who would like a simplified refresher training on how to use KSWebIZ. We will be going over log-in, adding history, administering vaccinations, printing consents and pink cards. If you are a new user, please take the time to sit in on this training! **Please note: this call is for KSWebIZ Direct Users Only!**

Register now for the date that works best for you!
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/1572841858584797442

**School Module Training**

The School Module Training occurs on the third Friday of every month from 9a-10a. This basic training is for new KSWebIZ school module users, or people who would like a simplified refresher training on how to use the KSWebIZ School Module. We will be going over log-in, adding history, education, and printing reports. Please take the time to sit in on this training! **Please note: this call is for KSWebIZ School Module Users Only!**

Register now for the date that works best for you!
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/8422671756415350273

**Reports Training**

The Reports Training occurs the fourth Friday of every month from 12p-1p. This training is for KSWebIZ users who are wanting to learn more about the KSWebIZ Reports module. We will be going over the most often used reporting sections and how to generate reports within these sections. We hope you have time to sit in on this training! **Please note: this call is for KSWebIZ Direct Users Only!**

Register now for the date that works best for you!
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/568840407867357186

**Pharmacy Training**

The Pharmacy Training occurs every Monday from 10a-11a and every Wednesday from 12p-1p. This training is for KSWebIZ pharmacy users that are new or would like a simplified refresher training on how to report immunizations to the state registry in compliance with statute KSA65-1635a. The training will consist of, logging-in, searching a patient, updating patient demographics, and adding immunizations. Please take the time to attend this training! **Please note: this call is for KSWebIZ Direct Entry Pharmacy Users Only!**

Register now for the date that works best for you!
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/7882741178298559746
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**Vaccine Redistribution**

Please email any additions or changes to be made on the Vaccine Redistribution lists with subject matter “Redistribution” to kdhe.vaccine@ks.gov or call toll free at 1-877-296-0464. Vaccine Redistribution information and lists.

**REMINDERS:** Providers may place the excess doses on the KIP Redistribution list if:

1. The vaccine has a minimum of 90 days and a maximum of 365 days before the vaccine's expiration date.
2. The ordering provider is responsible for any doses which expire on the redistribution list that have not been accepted for transfer to another VFC provider.
3. Providers accepting vaccine from the redistribution list are responsible for using the doses once they are transferred. KIP encourages providers to accept only doses they can administer before the expiration date.
4. The transferring and receiving provider will document these doses on their monthly reconciliation reports as transferred vaccines.
5. Once vaccine is transferred please contact KIP to let us know so we can adjust the redistribution list by either deleting the line or by reducing the amount of doses.
6. All vaccines must be in full boxes.
7. The KIP Regional Immunization Consultant who is on call must be contacted prior to transferring vaccine.
8. Providers are responsible for keeping KIP notified if there is a change in amount of doses available for redistribution.
9. When placing an order, you may be contacted if the vaccine you are trying to order is on the redistribution list.
10. Varicella and Proquad will not be posted on the VFC or Private Vaccine Redistribution List. Frozen Varivax vaccines are very intolerant to out of range temperatures. To prevent potential vaccine waste the KIP requests that Varivax containing vaccines not be transferred to other providers. For questions regarding transporting vaccine call 877-296-0464 to request assistance.