Registration is now open for the 2019 Kansas Immunization Conference. We have not yet been able to secure all of the speakers, so the agenda has not been finalized. Interested participants may now register and will be advised at a later date how to select the breakouts you plan to attend. Registration is $100 which includes all supplies, continuing education credit, breakfast and lunch on June 12th and 13th, as well as refreshments during the breaks. To register today, click here or go to www.eeds.com/live/470686.

We are pleased to announce the first of two new KSWebIZ HelpDesk Technicians began work this week in the Kansas Immunization Program. Dylan Hart (dylan.hart@ks.gov) comes to us with extensive customer service experience and strong computer skills.

A second technician will join Dylan next week to serve our KSWebIZ users. These two technicians will be available, after completing their training, to work with you via the phone but also be more available to come to your site and assist you with hands on learning and technical assistance with KSWebIZ. Please watch for future announcements on how to request in person technical assistance from these technicians.

We have also recently added a new Immunization Epidemiologist to our staff. Andrea May (andrea.may@ks.gov) holds a Masters in Public Health and brings strong analytical skills to the program. She is very passionate about using data to inform opportunities for program and vaccination rate improvement. Andrea will be taking over the annual Kindergarten Assessment, the Retrospective Vaccination Coverage Report, along with many other exciting new projects under development to help us achieve new goals and better serve you.

Please join us in welcoming these new these two new Kansas Immunization Program team members.
Vaccine Administration: Make No Mistakes

March 21, 2019
12 p.m.

Presenter:
JoEllen Wolicki BSN, RN
Nurse Educator
Education, Information and Partnership Branch
National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

JoEllen Wolicki travels throughout the United States to educate healthcare providers on immunization. Before joining CDC in 2010, she served for 14 years as a Nurse Consultant with the Michigan Department of Community Health Division of Immunizations. Ms. Wolicki serves as a committee member of several work groups for the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), contributes to the Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases textbook (the Pink Book), and works on many immunization training and educational materials and programs. Ms. Wolicki holds a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from the University of Detroit/Mercy.

Educational Objectives:
1. Discuss vaccine administration recommendations and best practices.
2. Implement best practice strategies to prevent vaccine administration errors.
3. Utilize vaccine administration resources for health care personnel.

Continuing education credit will be available. For more information and to complete advanced registration, [click here](#).

Vaccine Education Center Webinar with Dr. Paul Offit

The next “Current Issues in Vaccines” webinar co-sponsored by the Vaccine Education Center and the PA Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics will be held on Wednesday, April 3, 2019, at noon ET.

Dr. Offit will speak about the following topics related to influenza and the vaccine:
• Vaccine surveillance, 2018-19
• Vaccine effectiveness, 2018-2019
• FluMist®
• Vaccine safety: Spontaneous abortion
• Vaccine strains for 2019-20

Register or get more information. Archived events are available on the webinar archive page, and free continuing education credits are offered (CME, CEU, and CPE) through the University of Pittsburgh and Wilkes University. Information about how to obtain credits is provided during the recorded event.
Influenza Surveillance
March 20, 2019

The Influenza-Like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) sites continue to monitor patients for influenza-like illness (ILI) – symptoms include a fever (≥ 100°F) and the presence of a cough and/or sore throat. During the week ending March 9th, ILINet sites reported 5.4% of visits were due to ILI. Syndromic surveillance indicated 6.7% of visits to emergency departments in Kansas were due to ILI. All data is subject to change.

Influenza A/H3 activity has increased in Kansas during the past few weeks. The Kansas Department of Health and Environmental Laboratories (KHEL) has detected A/H3 in 99 specimens, A/H1 in 51 specimens, influenza A (not subtyped) in three specimens and one influenza B (Victoria) specimen. Twenty-two influenza outbreaks have been reported to KDHE this season. As a reminder, outbreaks of any disease are reportable and should be reported to the epidemiology hotline at (877) 427-7317. Stay updated on influenza activity at http://www.kdheks.gov/flu/surveillance.htm.

In the News:
'Definitely not an anti-vaxer': Some parents push back against recommended vaccine schedule. CNN Health has an article on how some parents prefer not to follow the regular schedule in vaccinating their children and prefer to spread the vaccine over time because of the required number of vaccines.

Anti-vaxers' adult son gets measles; now, he has this message for the world. A 30-year-old software product manager in Chicago shares his story to the world lambasting anti-vaxers. Read the full story.
We are pleased to announce that the hotel contracts have been signed and room blocks are now available at seven hotels in Salina for the 2019 Kansas Immunization Conference. Please see the chart below for a list of hotels and details related to number of rooms in our block, room rate and deadline for guaranteed rate. Note that rooms will book quickly in Salina, particularly for the last night as the annual River Festival will follow our conference. When booking, please mention the Kansas Immunization Conference to get the rate listed.

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