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## Hot Links

[www.twitter.com/immunizeca](http://www.twitter.com/immunizeca)

Stay up-to-date on CIC news, follow us on Twitter.

[www.cdphfilmfest.org](http://www.cdphfilmfest.org)

Enter the California Department of Public Health H1N1 video contest and a chance to win a \$500 gift card. Videos must be submitted by October 16, 2009.

[www.sfimmunize.org](http://www.sfimmunize.org)

The SFIC website has had a makeover. They also developed an iChoose poster with Bengie Molina from the SF Giants.

[healthfinder.gov](http://healthfinder.gov)

Federal Government Web site featuring trusted prevention and wellness information and tools.

[nphicpanflu.org](http://nphicpanflu.org)

Wealth of helpful and sharable pandemic flu materials for local, state and federal communicators.

[www.SCPH.com](http://www.SCPH.com)

Sacramento County Public Health, click on the H1N1 flu banner to view the video.

[www.generationpublichealth.org](http://www.generationpublichealth.org)

APHA video Generation Public Health

[MRSA Research Center](#)

The University of Chicago announces their new MRSA Research Center. They seek to prevent, control, and treat MRSA through basic scientific and clinical research.

[H1N1 comic book](#)

Free comic book download with H1N1 tips

[Meningitis T.E.A.M. 2009](#)

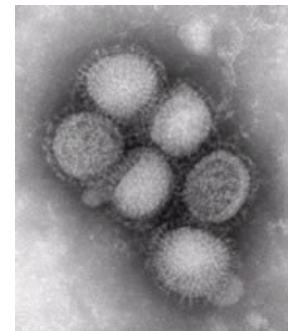
The National Meningitis Association's (NMA) T.E.A.M. members speak about how meningococcal meningitis changed their lives, and the importance of vaccination against this devastating disease.

[Immunization Action Coalition \(IAC\)](#)

IAC has just released new issues of Needle Tips, our semi-annual periodical for healthcare professionals who provide vaccinations to children, teens, and adults, and Vaccinate Adults, an abbreviated version of Needle Tips that contains only material relevant to vaccination in adult healthcare settings.

## H1N1 and Seasonal Influenza Vaccinations We're In This Together

A tremendous amount of information, resources and guidance have been developed nationally by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and locally by the California Department of Public Health and this information is updated regularly. The California Immunization Coalition (CIC) is committed to ensuring that California's immunization stakeholders are kept apprised through e-mails, newsletters, our website and on-line social media sites such as Twitter. We ask that you partner with us to re-distribute relevant information to your local stakeholders whenever possible.



The California Immunization Coalition was a participant at an H1N1 Stakeholders meeting held on September 10-11 in Washington DC, where Anne Schuchat, MD, Director of CDC's National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases Centers provided a brief update on CDC's preparation plans, answered questions from attendees, listened to group discussion and reaffirmed and reinforced the CDC's commitment to being transparent, open and inclusive in their communications.

While there are many unknowns about how things are going to transpire during the upcoming fall and winter flu season and the unprecedented simultaneous coordination of H1N1 and seasonal vaccination campaigns, here are a few of the things we do know:

- Vaccine to protect against H1N1 type A influenza is being manufactured with an anticipated delivery date in mid-October, possibly earlier
- Vaccination for H1N1 influenza is NOT mandatory for the public
- Priority groups for H1N1 have been determined ([2009 H1N1 Vaccination Recommendations](#))
- Vaccination against seasonal influenza has commenced in many areas of the country

The CDC also understands the power of partnerships in educating our communities and the unique challenges in communicating about two different vaccines, different priority groups and variable vaccine administration plans. 'We're in this together' Dr. Schuchat reminds us, and encouraged collaboration with faith based communities, the PTA, professional business associations such as local chambers of commerce, community service groups and medical associations to make sure patients and parents have access to credible resources so they can make informed decisions about vaccinating themselves and / or their children. Websites to refer public and professionals to:

**Flu.gov** - [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov) - One-stop access to U.S. Government H1N1, avian and pandemic flu information.

**CDC.gov** - [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu) - General information and weekly situation updates.

**CalPanFlu.org** - [www.calpanflu.org](http://www.calpanflu.org) - Facts and Information for Professionals and the Public in California.

Watch your e-mail for regular updates and the CIC website for links to updated information about H1N1 and seasonal influenza vaccination.

## Coalition Leaders Focus on Maximizing Resources

On August 11, a dozen leaders from California's local immunization coalitions participated in a special statewide teleconference which focused on communication needs and maximization of state and local resources.



Objectives for this call were to strengthen the partnership between local Coalitions and CIC, and to help identify resources so local Coalitions can continue to strengthen and grow their local networks. Participants discussed ways to efficiently share immunization news, information and resources. Many were eager for their coalitions to expand their use of social media and new technology. They also affirmed a desire for CIC to continue to share resources and information through the CIC website, newsletters and updates. Participants expressed an interest in continuing the conversation about maximizing resources to promote immunizations and a follow-up call will be scheduled in the near future. For more information or to make sure your Coalition is represented on the next call, please contact Sabrina Torres Royal at [storres@communitycouncil.org](mailto:storres@communitycouncil.org).

[www.vacunasymsalud.org](http://www.vacunasymsalud.org)

Immunization resources for Spanish speaking communities.

[www.calpanflu.org](http://www.calpanflu.org)

This site is for providers to register and order the H1N1 vaccine.

[www.flucliniclocator.org](http://www.flucliniclocator.org)

This site is provided by the American Lung Association and is for seasonal flu only. You can look up clinics by zip code. You can also sign-up for reminders. If any clinics would like to be listed there is a form for them to fill-out and fax in.

## Calendar

**September 17, 2009 - 1pm**  
CIC Health Disparities Workgroup  
Conference Call on  
Connecting Immigrant Families  
with Health and Wellness Resources

**October 27, 2009 - 12noon**  
CIC Education Hour  
More information to follow

**April 19-22, 2010**  
National Immunization Conference  
(NIC) – Atlanta, GA

**April 24 - May 1, 2010**  
NIIW - National Infant Immunization Week

**May 26-28, 2010**  
National Conference on Immunization &  
Health Coalitions(NCIHC) – Chicago, IL

## Our Mission

The California Immunization Coalition is a public-private partnership dedicated to achieving and maintaining full immunization protection for all Californians to promote health and prevent serious illness.

## Contact Us

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The Orange County Immunization Coalition recognizes that its greatest strength is its people. A Southern California fixture since 1995, the Coalition (OCIC) originally focused on spreading the word about the importance of vaccines through ads and educational events. Its membership was relatively small and it took a lot fewer people to accomplish their objectives. Over the years, OCIC has worked hard to foster relationships and expand membership while maintaining its community focus. With the expanded membership came more opportunities for conducting outreach to families and training opportunities for providers.



OCIC partners with the Angels baseball team to promote immunizations and offers Immunization Skills Institute trainings for Medical Assistants. Membership of the OCIC is comprised of public and private physicians, pharmacists, insurance providers, hospital representatives, professional organizations, clinic staff, HeadStart, and professional sports teams like the (don't call them LA) Angels. General membership meetings, held every other month, are open to the public and feature talks on current topics. Steering, Membership & Marketing, and Education Committees are open to new partners and provide great opportunities to network. For more information about the Orange County Immunization Coalition, visit [www.ochcahealthinfo.com/mcah/ocic/](http://www.ochcahealthinfo.com/mcah/ocic/) or contact Linda Scott at [LiScott@ochca.com](mailto:LiScott@ochca.com).

## San Diego's Immunization Champions

Each year the San Diego Immunization Branch (SDIB) recognizes local providers for their leadership and efforts to improve immunization practices using innovative practices and quality improvement projects.

In July, Dr Amy Witman, Dr Lisa Stellwagen and Pediatric Partners--Fallbrook Main were named "Providers of the Year" for exceptional contributions to advancing immunization services in San Diego County.

Dr. Witman was the first provider at Scripps clinics to utilize the immunization registry to enter and track her patients' immunization histories. Dr. Stellwagen has led efforts to ensure newborns and their mothers are protected from pertussis and other vaccine-preventable diseases at UCSD School of Medicine. Pediatric Partners--Fallbrook Main surpassed the 2010 Healthy People's goal of 80% to 100% for children's basic 4.3.1.3.3.1 immunization series.

For more photos and information, visit [http://www.sdiz.org/HealthcarePros/Hot\\_Topics/provider-of-the-year.html](http://www.sdiz.org/HealthcarePros/Hot_Topics/provider-of-the-year.html)



## Adult Hepatitis Vaccine Project

The goal of the Adult Hepatitis Vaccine Project (AHVP), a collaborative effort of the CDPH Immunization Branch, the CDPH Sexually Transmitted Disease Control Branch, and the CDPH Office of AIDS, is to reduce the transmission of viral hepatitis by increasing the availability of free adult hepatitis A and B vaccines to clinical settings serving at risk adults. Vaccine is purchased using Section 317 federal funds awarded to the Immunization Branch and delivered to participating local health departments and community-based organizations.



Current CDC guidelines recommend universal hepatitis B vaccination for all unvaccinated, uninfected adults served in the following settings:

- Sexually transmitted disease (STD) treatment facilities,
- Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) testing or care facilities,
- Drug abuse prevention and treatment facilities,
- Syringe exchange programs,
- Correctional facilities,
- Health care settings serving men who have sex with men.
- Health care settings serving injection drug users (IDU)s.
- Health care settings serving Asian/Pacific Islanders (or other individuals born in counties with least 2% prevalence of chronic hepatitis B infection)

For more information about the program, visit <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/immunize/Pages/AHVP.aspx> or contact Steve Nickell at [Steve.Nickell@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Steve.Nickell@cdph.ca.gov) or (510) 620-3780.

## Connecting Immigrant Families with Health and Wellness Resources

Please join the California Immunization Coalition's Health Disparities Teleconference on Thursday, September 17, 2009 at 1 pm to learn about health and wellness services that are available to support immigrant families across California.

California is home to nearly 10 million immigrants, or foreign-born residents, including naturalized U.S. citizens. In fact, California hosts more immigrants than any other state in the U.S. and 1 in every 4



Californians is an immigrant. Immigrant families are diverse in terms of their country of origin, educational level, languages spoken, income level, and access to health and wellness resources. However, in general, immigrants may be more likely to face challenges to obtaining healthcare resources than native citizen families. While most non-citizen immigrants are in working families, they are more likely than citizens to be low-income and are significantly less likely to have employer-based health coverage. They also may face challenges to navigating the healthcare system due to language barriers and psychosocial issues. Finally, waiting periods for benefits programs, a lack of knowledge about available resources, and a fear of being “reported to Immigration” can impede access to available public benefit programs.



### Featured Presentations

Presentations will provide an overview of health and wellness resources that are available to immigrant families, including state and federal public benefit programs and refugee health services. We also encourage participants to share resources that they are aware of, with fellow call participants.

**Donald Nollar and Liz Ramirez of Maternal and Child Health Access**, a non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring meaningful access to health and social services for low-income women and their families and to helping them improve the quality of their lives, will:

- Discuss the challenges that immigrant families face to accessing quality health and wellness services.
- Describe public benefits and voluntary health and wellness programs that are available to individuals of varying immigration status in California.
  - Touch on eligibility requirements for available programs
- Highlight resources, including educational materials and non-profit organizations, that can help stakeholders serve the needs of immigrant families.

**Joni Robinson, Nurse Consultant, California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Refugee Health Program**, a federal program administered through the California DPH and the California Department of Social Services that provides health assessment and health service referral (s), refugee medical assistance, and social service assistance to refugees (persons subjected to persecution in their homelands) and other specific populations such as asylees, will:

- Provide an overview of the Refugee Health Program's goals.
- Describe the refugee populations served by the Refugee Health Program.
- Discuss resources available to refugees living in California through the Refugee Health Assessment Program, the Refugee Preventive Health Program, and the Refugee Medical Assistance Program.
- Link participants with Refugee Health Programs operating in their Counties.

RSVP to [storres@communitycouncil.org](mailto:storres@communitycouncil.org).

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## Save The Date for the Next CIC Education Hour

Save the date for the next CIC Education Hour.

**October 27, 2009 - 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm**

The October call will include an important discussion around the recommended and required vaccinations for healthcare workers.

Watch your email for more information coming soon.

