



I Raise the Rates! October Edition

In this edition of I Raise the Rates (IRtR), you will find a variety of new resources from several public health partners, educational opportunities, and a brief selection of popular media articles related to immunization.

Fall and Winter Virus Season - NEW CDC Resource

Watch the following new short, animated video from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) entitled "Make a Difference this Fall and Winter Virus Season by Recommending the Right Immunization".



[Click for More CDC Videos](#)

CDC Recommends Second Dose of 2024-2025 COVID-19 Vaccine for People 65 Years and Older

and for People Who are Moderately or Severely Immunocompromised



On October 23, 2024, CDC Director Mandy Cohen endorsed the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' (ACIP) recommendation for people 65 years and older and those who are moderately or severely immunocompromised to receive a second dose of 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine six months after their first dose. These updated recommendations also allow for flexibility for additional doses (i.e., three or more) for those who are moderately or severely immunocompromised, in consultation with their healthcare provider (a strategy known as shared clinical decision making).

[Read More](#)

CDC Recommends Lowering the Age for Pneumococcal Vaccination from 65 to 50 Years Old



On October 23, 2024, CDC Director Mandy Cohen endorsed the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' (ACIP) recommendation for lowering the age for pneumococcal vaccination from 65 to 50 years old. Lowering the age for pneumococcal vaccination gives more adults the opportunity to protect themselves from pneumococcal disease at the age

when risk of infection substantially increases.

[Read More](#)

Interim Effectiveness Estimates of 2024 Southern Hemisphere Influenza Vaccines in Preventing Influenza-Associated Hospitalization — REVELAC-i Network, Five South American Countries, March–July 2024



What is already known about this topic?

Influenza vaccine effectiveness (VE) varies by season.

What is added by this report?

In five South American countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, and Uruguay) the 2024 Southern Hemisphere seasonal influenza vaccine reduced the risk for influenza-associated hospitalization among high-risk groups by 35%. VE might be similar in the Northern Hemisphere if similar A(H3N2) viruses predominate during the 2024–25 influenza season.

What are the implications for public health practice?

CDC recommends that all eligible persons aged ≥ 6 months receive seasonal influenza vaccine. Early antiviral treatment can complement vaccination to protect against severe influenza-related morbidity.

Additional Points

- Among high-risk groups like young children, people with preexisting conditions and older adults, vaccinated individuals were 34.5% less likely than the unvaccinated to be hospitalized due to flu.
- The effectiveness of this year's vaccine was lower in South America than last season, when vaccine effectiveness against hospitalization

among high-risk groups was found to be 51.9%.

[Read More](#)

Real-World Study Confirms RSV Vaccine's Protective Power for Seniors

Study: *Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine effectiveness against RSV-associated hospitalisations and emergency department encounters among adults aged 60 years and older in the USA, October, 2023, to March, 2024: a test-negative design analysis*

A global real-world study of the vaccine for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), published in *The Lancet* on October 18, 2024, found that it offers folks aged 60 and over 80% protection against severe illness and/or hospitalization.

The benefit was especially plain among the most vulnerable age group, those aged 75 and older.

The data for the study were obtained from some of America's largest health care networks, representing 230 hospitals and 245 emergency departments nationwide.

[Read More](#)

Order Your 4 Free At-home COVID-19 Tests



Every U.S. household is eligible to order 4 free at-home tests through covidtests.gov.

The tests available for order:

- Are rapid antigen at-home tests, not PCR
- Can be taken at home or other locations. Give results within 30 minutes (no lab drop-off required)

- Can be used for testing even if you do not have COVID-19 symptoms
- Can be used for testing whether you are up to date on your COVID-19 vaccines or not
- Are also referred to as self-tests or over the counter (OTC) tests

[Read More](#)

Upcoming Events

2024 Adult Immunization Conference

Recorded Webinar

Aired October 30th, 2024

CME Available: 4 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*[™]

<p>New Jersey Immunization Network <i>presents</i></p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">THE 2024 ADULT IMMUNIZATION CONFERENCE</h2> <p style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">“The Vital Role of Adult Immunizations in Managing Chronic Conditions”</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">AGENDA</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2024 8:30am - 12:30pm</p> <hr/> <p>8:30am – 8:40am Welcome / Opening Remarks <i>Maria C. Sciancalepore, MPA, CRA</i></p> <hr/> <p>8:40am – 9:10am Adult Vaccine Overview <i>David Cennimo, MD</i></p> <hr/> <p>9:10am – 9:40am Benefits of Using NJIIS for the Adult Practitioner <i>Patricia Kaiser</i></p> <hr/> <p>9:40am – 10:10am Using the Immunization Standards Job Aid for Quality Improvement <i>Fran Griffin, MPA, RRT</i></p> <hr/> <p>10:10am – 10:50am Can We Vaccinate Against Heart Attacks? <i>David Cennimo, MD - Moderator & Panelist 1</i></p> <hr/> <p>10:50am – 11:30am Panelist 2 HPV Vaccination and Its Broader Health Implications on Persons Living with HIV <i>Andrew Jameson, MD - Panelist 2</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">THE SPEAKER LINEUP</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; margin-bottom: 10px;">  <div> <p>Maria C. Sciancalepore, MPA, CRA <i>Program Director, New Jersey Immunization Network</i></p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; margin-bottom: 10px;">  <div> <p>David Cennimo, MD <i>Associate Dean for Education at New Jersey Medical School Clinical infectious diseases and infection control, Associate Chief of Staff for Education, Med-Peds residency Associate Program Director, VA New Jersey Health Care System</i></p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; margin-bottom: 10px;">  <div> <p>Andrew Jameson, MD, FACP, FIDSA, AAHIVS <i>Medical Director of Specialty Medicine, Section Chief - Infectious Diseases, Trinity Health West Michigan Associate Professor of Medicine, Clerkship Director - Internal Medicine, Michigan State College of Human Medicine</i></p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; margin-bottom: 10px;">  <div> <p>Justin Ortiz, MD, MS <i>Professor of Medicine, University of Maryland School of Medicine Physician Scientist at the Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health, University of Maryland Co-chair at the American Thoracic Society Vaccine Initiative</i></p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; margin-bottom: 10px;">  <div> <p>Patricia Kaiser <i>NJ Immunization Information System (NJIIS) Recruiter/Trainer, NJIIS Program Coordinator, Central Jersey Family Health Consortium</i></p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; margin-bottom: 10px;">  <div> <p>Fran Griffin, MPA, RRT <i>Consultant in quality improvement, patient safety and high reliability Infectious Diseases Society of America Improvement advisor to the NJ Academy of Family Physicians.</i></p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <p>Ethan Pardun, MPH <i>Administrative Assistant, New Jersey Immunization Network</i></p> </div> </div>
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11:30am – 12:10pm
Panelist 3
**RSV Disease and Prevention Among Adults
Living with Chronic Disease**
Justin Ortiz, MD - Panelist 3

12:10pm – 12:25pm
Panel Discussion and Audience Q&A
*Panel Moderator - David Cennimo, MD
Q&A Facilitators - NJIN Staff*

12:25pm – 12:30pm
Closing Remarks/CME Evaluation Information
*Maria C. Sciancalepore, MPA, CRA and Ethan
Pardun, MPH*

New Jersey Immunization Network



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New Jersey Chapter

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Accreditation Statement:
This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Medical Society of New Jersey through the joint providership of the New Jersey Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics and the American College of Physicians. The New Jersey Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics is accredited by the Medical Society of New Jersey to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

AMA Designation Statement:
The New Jersey Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics designates this enduring activity for a maximum of 4 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

ABP MOC Part II:
Successful completion of this CME activity, which includes participation in the evaluation component, enables the learner to earn up to 4 MOC points in the American Board of Pediatrics' (ABP) Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program. It is the CME activity provider's responsibility to submit learner completion information to ACCME for the purpose of granting ABP MOC credit.

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Complete Evaluation

Flu Warriors Festivals 2024

New Jersey Immunization Network

It is generally recommended that eligible individuals receive a flu vaccine in September or October of each year, in order to build immunity for the coming flu season.

With that in mind, we encourage you to join NJIN at one of our upcoming Flu Warriors Festivals to receive your annual dose.

All are welcome, regardless of health insurance status or immigration status. However, those with health insurance should bring their insurance card and identification.

For the full event schedule, click the document below or visit

[Immunizenj.org/community-events-2024](https://immunizenj.org/community-events-2024).



NJIN Community Events Schedule 2024

Flu Festivals

1. **October 5, 2024** (Sat.)
11:00am-2:00pm
 - **Partner:** Saint Joseph's Health
 - **Venue:** University Medical Center
 - **Address:** 11 Getty Avenue (parking lot outside of Saint Joseph's Regional Medical Center Infirmary), Paterson, NJ 07503
 - **Vaccines Available:** Influenza
2. **October 8, 2024** (Tues.)
3:00pm-5:30pm
 - **Partner:** Southern Jersey Family Medical Centers
 - **Venue:** Burlington Center
 - **Address:** 651 High St, Burlington, NJ 08016
 - **Vaccines Available:** Influenza
3. **October 14, 2024** (Mon.)
10:00am-1:00pm
 - **Partner:** Southern Jersey Family Medical Centers
 - **Venue:** Augusta Professional Building
 - **Address:** 860 South White Horse Pike, Hammonton, NJ 08037
 - **Vaccines Available:** Influenza

Back to School 2024

Best Practices for Disease Surveillance and Prevention for a Healthy School Year

Recorded Webinar

Aired September 26th, 2024

CME Available: 1.25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*[™]

Click below to access the Back to School 2024 webinar, hosted by the New Jersey Immunization Network, in partnership with the New Jersey Department of Health.

[Click to Access Webinar](#)

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