



## OCIC NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2019 EDITION

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## Welcome to the Winter 2019 Edition of the OCIC Newsletter!

Our goals are to provide you with the latest and most useful information on vaccines, immunizations and other related programs by searching news stories, medical articles and a variety of updates, gathered from national and international partners; and to do so by using technology in a way that reduces the use of paper.

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2019

California Immunization Coalition Summit | IZ Coordinators' Working Meeting



## 2019 California Immunization Coalition Summit in SoCal!

Don't miss California's most important immunization conference. The 2019 California Immunization Coalition (CIC) Summit will be **April 8 and 9 in Riverside**. The annual event brings together immunization advocates, health professionals and community leaders. The agenda includes plenary and workshop sessions, plus networking opportunities. Learn, share and be inspired! Space is limited so visit the [CICs Summit page](#) for information and [register](#) today.

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## Orange County Influenza Update

By Matt Zahn, MD

Local influenza activity has significantly increased in Orange County in recent weeks. As of January 24, one influenza-associated death and 22 ICU cases have been reported in persons under 65 years of age in Orange County this season. At the state level, influenza activity is widespread and is expected to continue for several more weeks.



Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 virus has been the most common strain identified by Orange County Public Health Laboratory testing of flu-positive specimens. Nationally, most regions are reporting a predominance of influenza A (H1N1)pdm09, though influenza A (H3N2) has been the most prevalent strain thus far in the southeastern United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report that circulating influenza strains are well-matched to those found in the vaccine. Influenza vaccine effectiveness varies from year to year. But even in years with decreased effectiveness, the vaccine will prevent thousands of cases of severe disease, particularly for those at high risk. A recent study found that influenza vaccine reduced influenza-related hospitalizations among patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease by 37.5% (Mulpuru S, Chest, 155(1): 69-78). Anyone over six months of age who hasn't gotten vaccinated should do so soon.

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## WHO Announces Top 10 Threats to Global Health in 2019... Unfortunately, Vaccine Hesitancy makes the list!

Here is the information from their press release. [See the full list here.](#)

Vaccine hesitancy - the reluctance or refusal to vaccinate despite the availability of vaccines - threatens to reverse progress made in tackling vaccine-preventable diseases. [Vaccination](#) is one of the most cost-effective ways of avoiding disease - it currently prevents 2-3 million deaths a year, and a further 1.5 million could be avoided if global coverage of vaccinations improved. [Read More](#)



## It's RSV Season - We Need a Vaccine! Here's where we are...

Progress on a vaccine for RSV almost came to a halt after an investigational vaccine failed in 1966. A formalin-inactivated RSV vaccine, which was being tested in the U.S., not only failed to protect children, but many infants experienced worse symptoms than usual, requiring hospitalization. Two toddlers died with enhanced disease symptoms, according to researchers. [Read More](#)

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## School-Located Influenza Vaccination Program

Minyong (Min) Kim, MPH  
Pamela Kahn, MPH, RN, NCSN

As of early January, the flu is circulating at low levels in California, but the percentage of lab-confirmed flu infections are on the rise, a sign that this flu season is gaining momentum. According to the AAP's Committee on Infectious Disease, school-age children have the highest annual flu rates - as high as 42%, and are the most important vector for community transmission of flu.



In 2013, Kaiser Permanente began a partnership with the LA County Dept. of Public Health and the LAUSD to create a program offering school-located vaccination programs. [Read More](#)

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## HPV Updates

By Selin Shirvanian, PharmD and Janet Cantada, PharmD



## Updated HPV Dosing Schedule

As of October 5, 2018, the FDA expanded the approved use of the 9-valent HPV vaccine (Gardasil 9®) to include women and men aged 27 through 45 years.



### 5 Ways to Improve HPV Vaccination Rates:

1. Recommend HPV vaccine to adolescents by bundling it with other routine vaccinations such as meningitis, whooping cough, or flu. [Read More](#)

### 5 Ways to Improve HPV Completion Rates:

1. Document the doses administered in the clinic/pharmacy system and schedule a follow-up reminder. [Read More](#)

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## New Quality Improvement Program for OC Practices

The AAP-OC Chapter recently received a grant from the American Academy of Pediatrics Chapter Quality Network and Pfizer to be one of six teams enlisted in the Improving Pediatric Immunization Care Learning Network. In

partnership with the Orange County Immunization Coalition, AAP-OC will engage 15-20 practices targeting 100 providers with a focus on practices connected to large health systems in Orange County, California. AAP-OC will collaborate with the Orange County Immunization Coalition to run an IHI Breakthrough Series Learning Collaborative model. Professional education will be designed and led collaboratively by the chapter and immunization coalition in both the learning collaborative and reaching other coalition member organizations. The California Immunization Registry (CAIR) will be partnering with the project team to provide registry support for participating practices, integrating with EHR systems and connecting to CAIR2. To inquire about participation, or for more information, please email Jamie McDonald at [jamie@aap-oc.org](mailto:jamie@aap-oc.org)

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Orange County Chapter

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### STAY CONNECTED

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