



The National Vaccine Advisory Committee (NVAC) Standards for Child and Adolescent Immunization Practices represent the most desirable immunization practices, which pediatricians should strive to achieve. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) endorses the NVAC Standards and encourages pediatricians to fully implement the recommendations. In an effort to address implementation challenges, the AAP Childhood Immunization Support Program collects best practices from pediatric offices and shares them for adoption in your office!

NVAC Standard #10 states that:

**Persons who administer vaccines and staff who manage or support vaccine administration are knowledgeable and receive ongoing education.**

Health care professionals or others who administer vaccinations should be knowledgeable and receive continuing education in vaccine storage and handling, the recommended vaccine schedule, contraindications, and administration techniques; treatment and reporting of adverse events; vaccine benefit and risk communication; and vaccination record maintenance and accessibility. With appropriate training and in accordance with state law/regulation/policy, people other than physicians and nurses may administer vaccines. In addition, other staff should receive their training and continuing education related to their specific roles and responsibilities that affect vaccination services.

The CDC sponsors distance-based training opportunities (e.g., satellite broadcasts, web-based training, videotapes, self-administered print materials) for health care professionals. Information about training is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/default.htm>.

## **Pediatric Implementation Strategies:**

**Partner with your local AAP chapter and Department of Health to provide your office with immunization education and quality improvement**

- Visit the [AAP Immunization Continuing Education page](#) to find AAP-sponsored CME.
- Programs at the state level, such as the Pennsylvania and Georgia's Educating Physicians In their Communities (EPIC), provide education for the entire practice staff in the office at a time that is convenient for the office.
- Education can focus on updates to the immunization schedule, providing multiple vaccines, how to talk to parents about vaccine safety, refreshers on storage and handling, etc.
- Some programs can even provide follow-up to make sure that the education was effective in improving office procedures around immunization administration.

**Participate in CDC-sponsored continuing education events.**

- The CDC's National Immunization Program offers immunization education and training programs for all immunization providers. Programs include satellite broadcasts, meetings, self-studies, curricula, net conferences, and even on-site trainings.
- Visit the CDC Web site for updated information on educational events: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/default.htm>.

**Provide practice staff with continual updates about the immunization schedule**

- Update staff when new vaccines enter the market. Recommendations for new vaccines can be found on the Childhood Immunization Support Program Web site ([www.aap.org/immunization](http://www.aap.org/immunization)) or the CDC National Immunization Program's Web site ([www.cdc.gov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines)).
- Review if the new vaccine may be given simultaneously with other vaccines on the schedule and at what ages.



## Provide in-office training to using AAP Tools

- The AAP offers [Risk Communication Videos](#) to help encourage fruitful discussions with families about their vaccine safety concerns. Use this video series with the available moderator's guide to train your staff about good communication techniques.
- The [AAP Training Guide](#) is designed to assist pediatric office staff in all aspects of immunizing a practice's patients. Use this guide to educate and properly train physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses, medical assistants, office managers, and other office staff.
- The [AAP Education in Quality Improvement for Pediatric Practices \(EQIPP\): Immunizations – Improve Your Practice Rates](#) is a course that can provide the office with strategies for improving practices and increasing immunization rates.

## Resources:

### AAP

- **AAP Chapter Activities in Immunization**  
<http://www2.aap.org/immunization/about/chapterinitiatives.html>
- **EQIPP: Immunizations – Improve Your Practice Rates**  
<http://eqipp.aap.org/>
- **Immunization Training Guide**  
<http://www2.aap.org/immunization/pediatricians/training-guide.html>
- **Risk Communication Videos**  
[www2.aap.org/immunization/pediatricians/riskcommunicationvideos.html](http://www2.aap.org/immunization/pediatricians/riskcommunicationvideos.html)

### CDC

- **Immunization Courses: Broadcasts, Webcasts, and Self Study**  
<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/courses.htm>
- **Immunization Education for Providers**  
<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/default.htm>
- **National Immunization Program Web site**  
[www.cdc.gov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines)

### Additional Resources

- **Continuing Education Opportunities**  
<http://www.immunize.org/resources/contedu.asp>
- **Immunization Action Coalition**  
[www.immunize.org](http://www.immunize.org)
- **National Initiative for Children's Healthcare Quality**  
[www.nichq.org/index.html](http://www.nichq.org/index.html)
- **National Network for Immunization Information**  
[www.immunizationinfo.org](http://www.immunizationinfo.org)
- **State Immunization Program Web sites**  
[www.immunize.org/states/](http://www.immunize.org/states/)

Other installments in this series can be found on the Childhood Immunization Support Program Web site at:  
<http://www2.aap.org/immunization/pediatricians/nvacstandards.html>

Please send your ideas on cost-effective and sustainable practices to [cispimmunize@aap.org](mailto:cispimmunize@aap.org).

