



**Mecklenburg County
Public Health**

**Gibbie Harris, MSPH, BSN
Health Director**

(704) 336-4700

Date: July 8th, 2021

To: Mecklenburg County Healthcare Providers

From: Meg Sullivan, MD, MPH, Medical Director; Mecklenburg County Public Health

Re: Adolescent Immunization Awareness Month

This memo is intended to highlight July as Adolescent Immunization Awareness Month and recommend key steps providers can take to improve adolescent immunization rates in Mecklenburg County.

Adolescent Immunization Overview:

- July is *Adolescent Immunization Awareness Month*, which is a great time to remind patients and parents to protect their teens and pre-teens by scheduling an appointment for recommended immunizations.
- Due to COVID-19, children and, in particular, adolescents have fallen behind on receiving recommended vaccines.
- Catching up on vaccinations is crucial--vaccines protect adolescents from serious and potentially life-threatening diseases.
- As a quick overview of the recommended vaccines for adolescents:
 - Ages 11+: Tdap, Meningococcal, HPV
 - Ages 12+: COVID-19
 - Ages 16+: Meningococcal booster
 - Ages 16-23: MenB in specific situations based on shared clinical decision making
 - All adolescents: annual flu vaccine during flu season
- For more information on the recommended and catch up schedule visit <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/>

Recommended Steps to Improve Immunization Uptake among Adolescents:

- Identify adolescents who have missed vaccinations and contact them to schedule appointments.
- Check at each visit for any missing immunizations and administer vaccines that are due.
- **Conduct proactive outreach to all patients ages 12 and older to recommend the COVID vaccine**
 - **The COVID vaccine can be safely administered at the same time as other immunizations.**
- If your practice does not offer vaccinations, you may refer patients to Mecklenburg County Public Health at 704-336-6500

MCPH will be planning a specific adolescent vaccination event on Friday, July 30th from 8am-7pm at multiple health department locations. To schedule an appointment please call 704 336-6500 or visit <https://www.mecknc.gov/HealthDepartment/ClinicServices/Pages/Immunizations.aspx> for more information.

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How to become a Vaccine Provider:

- Here are additional resources if your practice is interested in becoming a vaccine provider:
 - To become an NCIP provider, please call (919) 707-5598
 - If interested in providing COVID-19 Vaccine, you may email MeckCVMS@mecknc.gov and we will contact you to provide technical assistance and answer questions. You may also call (877) 873-6247 and **select option 1 for COVID-19 questions** or visit <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/vaccines/info-health-care-providers/covid-19-vaccine-management-system-cvms>.

Thank you for your continued hard work and collaboration on improving vaccination rates among adolescents in our community and ongoing COVID-19 Response. We greatly appreciate your efforts to protect our community! Please contact MCPH at 980-314-9088 with any questions

Sincerely,



Meg S. Sullivan, MD, MPH
Medical Director



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