KEEP KIDS SAFE, HEALTHY, AND VACCINATED DURING COVID-19

Continue well child visits and immunizations at health centers

Due to concerns about COVID-19, many families delayed coming in for well child visits and immunizations. This leaves them vulnerable to other diseases, especially as they begin gathering again.

Vaccinating infants and young children on time is the best way to protect them from 14 serious and preventable diseases.

Health centers and health workers should communicate to families, especially our most vulnerable populations, that it is safe to come in for well child visits and immunizations and why it is important to do so.

<u>Please continue vaccination visits during this time</u>, and call in any patients that have missed appointments or are behind on their immunizations. There are many safe ways you can set this up.



Plan for Safety

- Pick strategies that will help you lessen the risks of COVID-19 in your facility while providing well-child and vaccination visits
- Follow safety and protective equipment guidance from CDC and OSHA for your staff.
- Make a plan to support vulnerable populations.

Some strategies to consider:

- Separate sick and well visits (physically or by time of day)
- Get outdoors (mobile clinics, in-car exams/vaccines)
- Offer masks or face coverings to patients age 2 and up
- Reduce crowding
- Screen staff, patients, caregivers, and visitors for high-risk symptoms
- If needed, prioritize infants and small children 24 months and younger; pregnant women; and older adults.
- Find details and a longer list <u>here</u>.

Communicate

Tell families:

- It's important to go in
- Talk to your child's clinic to find out what they're doing to keep you safe
- Make a plan for appointments

Reassure patients and clients

- Share your safety story. What are YOU doing?
- Be vocal in supporting immunizations

Bring in patients

- Use reminder/recall techniques (the Department of Health is available for technical assistance)
- Treat every visit as a vaccination visit (no missed opportunities)
- Use standing orders

Use the resources on page 2.

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Resources for you, your patients, and your clients

Communication reminders

- Share information with your clients and patients in languages and methods they use
- Localize and personalize the information where possible.
- If you don't have time for personalized social media, share existing posts from the Department of Health, your local health jurisdiction, the American Academy of Pediatrics, or clinics/providers you trust.

Online resources

- www.doh.wa.gov/coronavirus
- Coronavirus.wa.gov
- www.doh.wa.gov/immunization
- <u>Health care provider guidance</u> on vaccination during COVID-19
- Pharmacy guidance on vaccination during COVID-19

Items you can print or order

- <u>Click here</u> to order printed materials from the Department of Health
- Click here to find materials you can print yourself
- Immunization materials in languages other than English
- Community Health Worker Flipbook in English and Spanish
- "Plain Talk About Childhood Immunization" in English, Spanish, and Russian

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy, Stay Vaccinated campaign

<u>Campaign materials</u>, including flyer in 6 languages; social media toolkit;
 Q&A; and resource lists.

