

Steering Committee Agenda

January 14, 2026 | 12:00pm-1:30pm

Welcome	Jim McPherson
2026 Update	James Washington
Respiratory Illness Season Updates, ACIP Overview	Joel Terriquez, MD
ADHS Update.....	Nicole Witt, MPH
County Update	
• Maricopa County.....	Rita Wermers, DNP, RN
• Pima County.....	Lara Larson, RN
Advocacy	Jennifer Tinney/Ashley Chambers
Communication Messaging	Karin Szymanski
Provider/Community Update.	TAPI Staff
• Big Shot Awards	
• School Health Forum	
• TIPS planning update	

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Steering Committee Meeting
March 11, 2026
12:00pm - 1:30pm

Steering Committee

January 14, 2026
12:00pm-1:30pm



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Welcome & Introductions

Jim McPherson
TAPI



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Executive Update

James Washington
TAPI



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TAPI Updates

And it continues...

Trump-RFK Jr.'s new vaccine schedule puts families at risk

RFK Jr reshapes CDC vaccine panel with new OB-GYN appointments

Officials said the move aligns with President

RFK Jr. guts the US childhood vaccine schedule despite its decades-long safety record



CDC advisory panel votes to limit hepatitis B vaccines for newborns

Move from CDC advisers mirrors Trump team's regressive approach to longstanding vaccine guidance



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TAPI Updates:

Our continued focus and commitment:

- Engagement; partnerships
- Effective Communication; resources
- Advocacy; monitor and respond

Building a 3-Year Strategic Plan

- Align our resources, mission, sustainability
- Your input is needed: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TAPISP25>

Thank you for your patience and understanding; IT domain change




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ADHS Update

Joel Terriquez, MD
ADHS




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ADHS update

Joel Terriquez MD, CIC, AL-CIP
Arizona Department of Health Services
Bureau of Infectious Diseases Services/Bureau of Immunizations Services

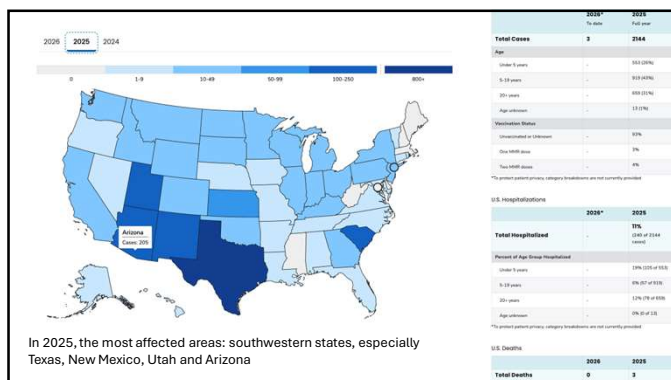


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Current situation

1. Measles
2. Influenza A H3N2
3. Pertussis

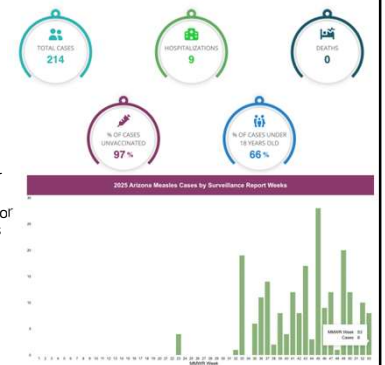
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Measles

- **Highly contagious disease.**
- **90% attack rate if unvaccinated**
- The virus spreads through direct contact with infectious droplets or by airborne spread when an infected person breathes, coughs or sneezes and can remain infectious in the air and on surfaces up to 2 hours after an infected person leaves the area.
- **217 CASES IN AZ (97% unvaccinated)- 1/13/26**



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Measles clinical presentation

- Measles typically begins with fever, cough, runny nose, and pink eye that lasts 2-4 days before a rash begins.
- A person with measles is contagious from 4 days before the start of the rash through 4 days after the rash begins.
- Measles can cause severe health complications including pneumonia, encephalitis, and death.

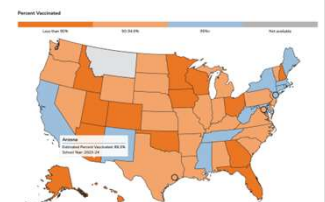
"COUGH, CORYZA, CONJUNCTIVITIS"



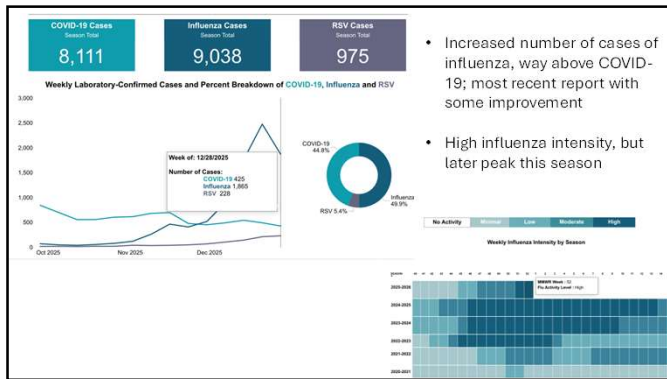
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Vaccine

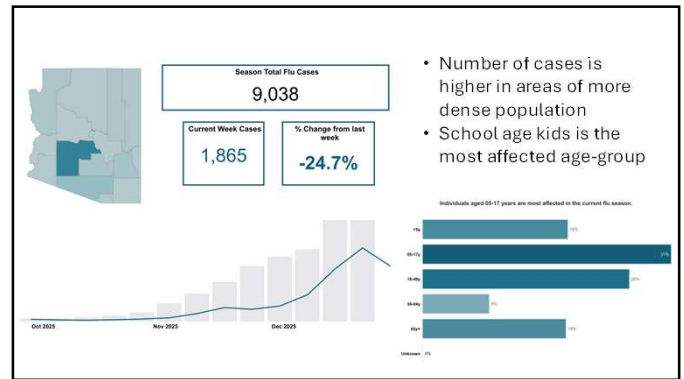
- Vaccination is the best way to prevent measles.
- **Two doses of the MMR vaccine provide 97% protection.**
- Children are recommended to receive the **first dose at 12-15 months**, and the **second at 4-6 years**
- Anyone exposed to a case of measles should monitor for symptoms for 3 weeks from last exposure and call their healthcare provider if symptoms develop.
- **Contacts who are unvaccinated should:**
 - Receive a **dose of MMR vaccine** (within 72 hours of exposure) OR
 - Receive **measles immunoglobulin** (if unable to receive MMR vaccine) within 6 days of exposure



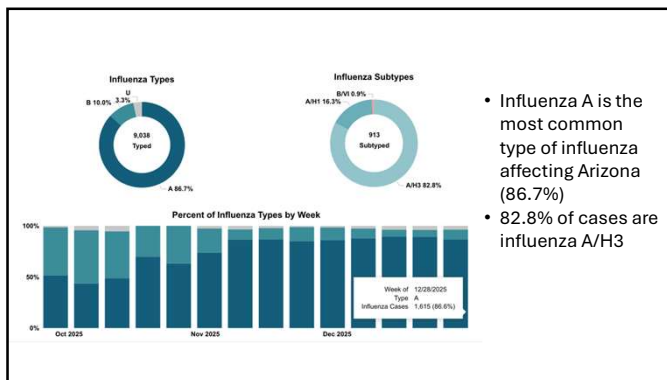
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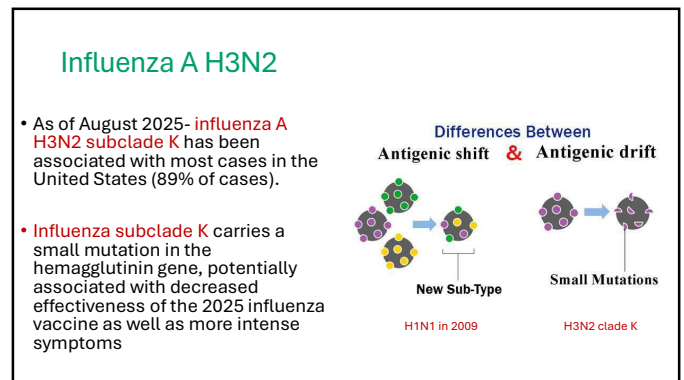
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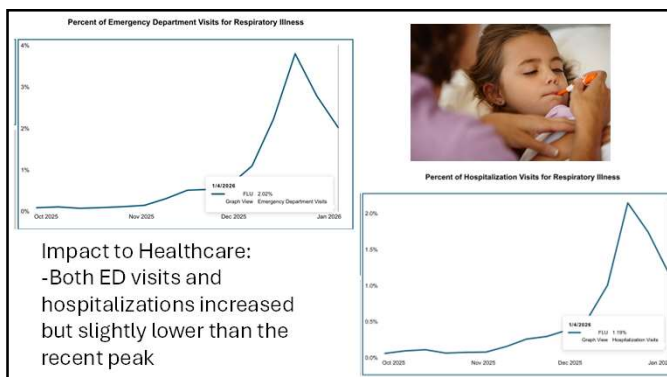
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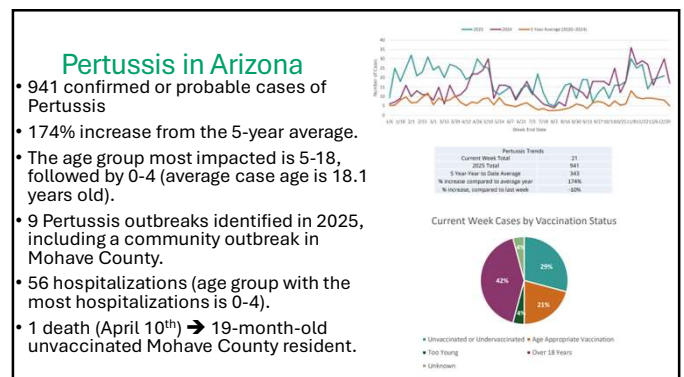
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CDC's new vaccine recommendations

- **All children**
 - DTaP
 - Tdap
 - Haemophilus influenzae B
 - Pneumococcus
 - Poliovirus
 - MMR
 - Varicella
 - HPV
- **High risk**
 - RSV, Hep B, Hep A, Dengue, meningococcal ACWY and B
- **Shared decision making**
 - Rotavirus
 - COVID-19
 - Influenza
 - Hep A
 - Hep B
 - Meningococcal ACWY and B

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ADHS current standing

- ADHS *has not received any official guidance or direction from the CDC* regarding changes to the vaccine schedule for the federal Vaccine for Children program that are necessary for informing any shifts in current practice or recommendations.
- ADHS *continues to recommend that all individuals stay up-to-date on vaccinations* following the recommended childhood immunization schedule issued by the *American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)* and the adult immunization schedule issued by the *American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)*.



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ADHS Update

Nicole Witt, MPH
ADHS



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Maricopa County Update

Rita Wermers DNP, RN
ADHS



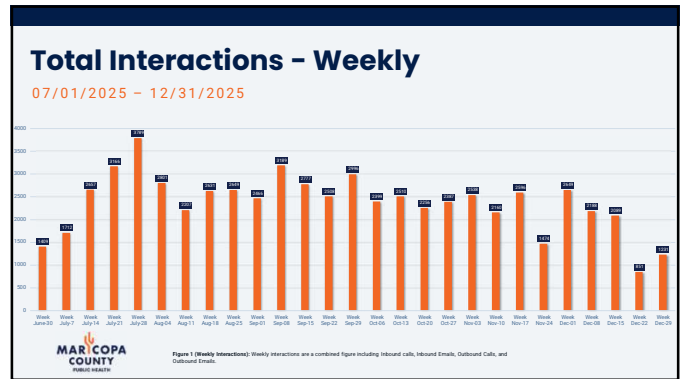
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MARICOPA COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH

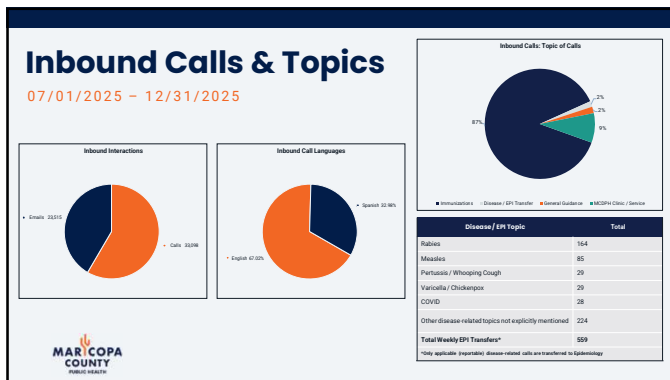
Maricopa County Update

R. Nicholas Staab, MD, MSPH : Chief Medical Officer : July 9, 2025

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MARICOPA COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH

Public Health Centers - 4 Valley Locations!

PHOENIX
1448 E ROOSEVELT ST,
PHOENIX, AZ 85006

Hours: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8am-5pm
Wed 9am-5pm
(Closed 12pm - Lunch)
Appointment only (602) 506-6767

STI
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8am-5pm
Wed 9am-5pm
(Closed 12pm - Lunch)
Walk-in only

Vital Records
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8am-4:30pm
Wed 9am-4:30pm

WIC
Mon 9am-6:30pm
Tue-Thu 7:30am-4pm
(Closed 12pm - Lunch)
For more info call (602) 506-1033

GLENDALE
3911 W LAMAR RD,
GLENDALE, AZ 85301

Hours: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8am-5pm
Wed 9am-5pm
(Closed 12pm - Lunch)
Appointment only (602) 506-6767

STI
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8am-5pm
Wed 9am-5pm
(Closed 12pm - Lunch)
Appointment call (602) 506-1678 (24-hour STI)
Walk-in welcome

Vital Records
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8am-4:30pm
Wed 9am-4:30pm

WIC
Mon 9am-6:30pm
Tue-Thu 7:30am-4pm
(Closed 12pm - Lunch)
For more info call (602) 506-1033

GOODYEAR
1415 S MCCOY RD,
GOODYEAR, AZ 85305

Hours: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8am-5pm
Wed 9am-5pm
(Closed 12pm - Lunch)
Appointment only (602) 506-6767

STI
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8am-5pm
Wed 9am-5pm
(Closed 12pm - Lunch)
Appointment call (602) 506-1678 (24-hour STI)
Walk-in welcome

Vital Records
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8am-4:30pm
Wed 9am-4:30pm

WIC
Mon 9am-6:30pm
Tue-Thu 7:30am-4pm
(Closed 12pm - Lunch)
For more info call (602) 506-1033

MESA
1950 S COUNTRY CLUB DR,
MESA, AZ 85210

Hours: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8am-5pm
Wed 9am-5pm
(Closed 12pm - Lunch)
Appointment only (602) 506-6767

STI
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8am-5pm
Wed 9am-5pm
(Closed 12pm - Lunch)
Appointment call (602) 506-1678 (24-hour STI)
Walk-in welcome

Vital Records - Limited Services
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8am-4:30pm
Wed 9am-4:30pm
(Closed 12pm - Lunch)

WIC
Mon 9am-6:30pm
Tue-Thu 7:30am-4pm
(Closed 12pm - Lunch)
For more info call (602) 506-1033

You can also find us online at www.maricopa.gov/publichealth

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2025 Vaccines Administered

August - December

Children - 22,111 Adults - 1,292

- Roosevelt/Community Outreach
 - 5069*
- Mesa
 - 5348
- Goodyear
 - 5378
- Glendale
 - 6316
- Roosevelt/Community Outreach
 - 919
- Mesa
 - 88
- Goodyear
 - 140
- Glendale
 - 18145

MARICOPA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

May not fully represent all vaccines given due to implementation of electronic medical record

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2025 Visits

August - December

Children - 8,059 Adults - 700

- Roosevelt/Community Outreach
 - 1,807 (last go live)
- Mesa
 - 2,043
- Goodyear
 - 1,967
- Glendale
 - 2,242 (first go live)
- Roosevelt/Community Outreach
 - 437
- Mesa
 - 68
- Goodyear
 - 104
- Glendale
 - 91

MARICOPA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH



May not fully represent all visits due to implementation of electronic medical record

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City of Phoenix VFC Program

MCPiP (Maricopa County Phoenix Immunization Program)

- MCDPH and ADHS continue to work closely to plan the implementation of operations
- All staff hired and onboarded – preparing for Go Live
- In the interim, no immediate changes for COP VFC providers


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Pima County Update

Lara Larson, RN
ADHS



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PIMA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT


January 14, 2026
Lara Larson, Program Manager
Vaccine Preventable Disease

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January 5, 2026




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Response to Recent CDC Changes

- Published Health Hub articles addressing hepatitis B birth dose and the CDC policy shifts; both articles clarifying PCHD's continued commitment to evidence-based immunization practices
- Childhood immunization schedule: Continuing to advocate for and follow AAP/AAFP recommendations (17 diseases) rather than reduced CDC schedule (11 diseases)
- Business as usual approach: Supporting healthcare providers and community members with consistent, science-based guidance
- Developed quick talking points for clinical and non-clinical staff to confidently address public questions about schedule changes

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Key Messages

- Pima County continues to follow AAP and AAFP vaccine schedules - nothing has changed for our patients
- Vaccines remain safe and effective. The science supporting vaccine safety hasn't changed
- All vaccines remain available and covered by insurance, including VFC. Families will not have to pay out of pocket for these vaccines.

If Parents Want More Information

- PCHD Vaccine Program: 520-724-2853


Do NOT:

- Express personal opinions about vaccines
- Discuss political aspects of the CDC decision


Tone Tips

- Show empathy for parent concerns
- Emphasize continuity: "Nothing has changed in our recommendations"
- Focus on what we DO recommend, not what the CDC changed
- Avoid getting drawn into political discussions


Practice Scenarios



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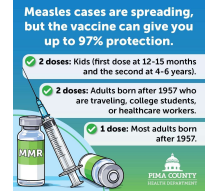
Measles Response Update



- Single measles case confirmed in Pima County; successful collaborative management between local hospital and PCHD epidemiology with no secondary transmission
- Increased private stock MMR par levels to ensure rapid response capacity for potential surge in demand
- Established weekend vaccinator roster to enable expanded clinic hours and community outreach if needed


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Social Media





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EPIC Go-Live 12/8/25




Overall transition has been positive with improved clinical workflows


- **Challenge 1 - VFA Data Transmission:** VFA records currently transmitting to ASIIS as VFC records, requiring staff to manually decrement VFC entries and separately log into VFA system to manually enter each vaccination record (significant administrative burden)
- **Challenge 2 - Inventory Management:** Current Epic version lacks inventory tracking functionality previously available in legacy EHR; developing interim processes to manage VFC, VFA, and private stock inventory across all three clinic locations

Working with IT and Epic implementation team to identify solutions

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Budget Season



- 63% vaccination volume increase from 2023 to 2024, maintaining 59% growth through 2025
- 8% overall vaccine inflation with HPV specifically increasing 15% (administering ~1,300 doses/year at \$307/dose)
- COVID-19 vaccine transition from federal funding to county budget in 2024
- Adult polio vaccination surge (1,385% increase) driven by new recommendations/immigration vaccines
- New vaccine introductions (nirsevimab, RSV vaccines, JYNNEOS for mpox)
- Enhanced flu vaccines for 65+ population
- Static VFA federal funding despite increased adult vaccination demand

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Questions

Lara.Larson@pima.gov
520-724-2853

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Vaccine Policy Update

Jennifer Tinney
Ashley Chambers
TAPI/AzFV



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New HHS Schedule: What we know for AZ right now

New HHS Childhood Immunization Schedule
(released January 5, 2026)

Recommended for All Children

- Diphtheria
- Tetanus
- Acellular pertussis (whooping cough)
- Hemophilus influenza type b (Hib)
- Pneumococcal conjugate
- Polio
- Measles
- Mumps
- Rubella
- Human papillomavirus (HPV)
- Varicella (chickenpox)

Recommended for Certain High-Risk Groups or Populations

- MMCV
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis C
- Neisseria meningitidis
- Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)

Recommended Based on Shared Clinical Decision-Making

- Rabies
- COVID-19
- Adenovirus
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis C

- **AHCCCS** has historically reimbursed for VFC administration under shared clinical decision making (SCDM) and covers vaccines that are considered medically necessary.
- Private health plans have stated they will continue to reimburse for vaccines that were recommended under the previous ACIP committee before the Sept 2025 changes. (At least for 2026)
- ADHS has standing orders for pharmacies to continue to provide vaccines outside of the ACIP recommendations.
- SCDM guidelines include nurses and pharmacists:
 - **CDC's SCDM:** CDC defines a health care provider as anyone who provides or administers vaccines: primary care physicians, specialists, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, and pharmacists.
 - **HHS Statement:** Individual decision-making is referred to on the CDC's adult and child immunization schedules as vaccination based on SCDM which references providers including physicians, nurses, and pharmacists.

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SCDM, High-Risk, Informed Consent & Liability

FDA Patient Medication Example

CDC Patient Vaccine Example

- Already takes place for every administration
 - Recommendation/Discussion/Screening
 - The Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) is the patient package insert and includes risks and benefits
- Vaccines adopted by CDC and "listed" on the schedule (including high risk and SCDM) have ACA first dollar coverage requirement. *CHS FAQ, CDC FAQ*
- Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP) covers those recommended for routine use in children or during pregnancy.
 - Routine is customary practice. When divergence of recommendation, adherence to previous practice can be considered reasonable, especially when used by a sizable number of respectable clinicians
 - so refer to AAP/ACOG schedule in standing orders
 - Requires 180 day rule making process for changes and no clear process for removing a vaccine

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Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP)

Makes it easier and less costly for patients to receive compensation

Fund covered by a tax paid by manufacturers on each dose (Congress approved)

Covers known sides effects established, by Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Medicine, ACIP, and the advisory commission

Advisory Commission:
3 child health care professionals.
3 people from the general public with 2 representing parents who have a vaccine injured child.
3 attorneys, 1 with previous experience representing injury patient.

SUBMIT → **REVIEW** → **DECISION**

SUBMIT: Submit a Completed Request for Benefits Package

REVIEW: CDC Medical Staff Reviews Your Package

DECISION:

- If You Are Found Eligible for Benefits:**
 - You Will Be Awarded for Future Documentation
 - CDC Will Issue a Payment
- If You Are Found Ineligible for Benefits:**
 - CDC Will Inform You in Writing of the Disapproval
 - If You Do Not Agree with a CDC Decision, You Can Ask for Reconsideration

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Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP) Changes

- Met 12/29. Discussions but no votes.
 - Comment - a link between vaccines and autism was supported by the CDC's website. (Webpage changed Nov 2025)
- 1/13/2026 – at least 2 advisors received messages that their services were no longer required (before the end of their terms)
 - **Wendy Lane, M.D., M.P.H.** (On ACPM's Vaccine Confidence Campaign) Health Professional, General Term end: December 2027
 - **Veronica McNally, J.D.** (previous ACIP consumer rep & I vaccinate Campaign) Unaffiliated Attorney Term end: December 2027
- Could be first big move to add autism to injury list

HHS Research on Plausible Biologic Mechanisms between Vaccines and Autism

HHS will evaluate plausible biologic mechanisms between early childhood vaccinations and autism. Mechanisms for further investigation include the impacts of aluminum adjuvants, risk for certain children with mitochondrial disorders, history of neuroinflammation, and more.

New ACIP Members Added 1/13/2026

Adam Urato, M.D., Obstetrician and Gynecologist specializing in Maternal-Fetal Medicine.

Implied in a tweet that pregnancy vaccines are harmful

Kimberly Biss, M.D., Obstetrician and Gynecologist in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Has previously claimed, against the evidence, that COVID-19 vaccines cause miscarriages

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AAP v. Kennedy

Originally related to COVID vaccine restriction & the replacement of ACIP members outside of the established process

- Intend to additionally ask the court:
 - For a preliminary injunction to enjoin the January 5 immunization schedule change
 - Block the compromised ACIP from meeting in February.
 - Will file motion for this injunction next Monday, which the judge set for hearing in Boston on February 13

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Communications Update

TAPI 2026 Social Media Campaign Calendar

- Recognition days/weeks/months mapped out
- Creating our own messages/images/hashtags and using partner materials.
- Facebook, X, Instagram, Linked In, YouTube (video sharing)



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Community and Provider Meetings

TAPI Staff

TAPI



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TAPI AWARD CATEGORIES

DANIEL T. CLOUD OUTSTANDING PRACTICE

- Assessment-based award recognizes the exceptional efforts of the many individuals and organizations whose tireless work and innovative strategies have improved immunization coverage levels for toddlers (24-35 months) and teens (13-15 years) in Arizona.

BIG SHOTS OF ARIZONA

- Organizations and individuals who have distinguished themselves by improving the health and wellness of Arizona's communities and the lives of Arizona children through increasing immunization rates.



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Important Dates

- Cloud- Nominations open January 15, 2026 – March 19
- Big Shots- Nominations open January 27- February 24
- Big Shots for Arizona Awards Ceremony- April 14



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SAVE THE DATE

Big Shots for Arizona Awards Ceremony

Honoring the Dr. Daniel T. Cloud Outstanding Practices & Arizona Big Shots

DoubleTree by Hilton Phoenix Mesa
April 14, 2026
5:00pm-8:00pm

Nominations open soon for Cloud & Big Shots awards

Cloud - Honors practices that have improved immunization coverage levels, verified by AZSD assessments. Open 1/15

Big Shots - These awards recognize exceptional efforts of individuals & organizations. Open 1/27



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Awards Ceremony

We are seeking donated gift baskets!

Some ideas for baskets:

- Spa Day
- Movie night
- Coffee and tea lover
- Chocolatier
- Gardening
- Arts and crafts
- Gourmet foodie



Donation forms and blank in-kind solicitation letters are available
To provide a basket or item for the event, please email tapiadmin@tapi.org.



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School Health Forum

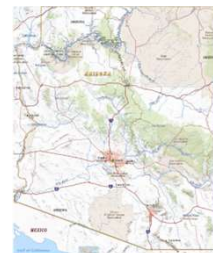
- Survey being sent out to TAPI and ADE school health listserv to determine best day/time



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2026 TIPS

- Beginning stages of planning dates/ locations
- Focus on rural and high exemption areas



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Thank You!

Next
Steering Committee Meeting

March 11, 2026
12:00pm-1:30pm



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