

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

 The Arizona Partnership for Immunization
WhyImmunize.org

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Welcome & Introductions

Jim McPherson
TAPI

 The Arizona Partnership for Immunization
WhyImmunize.org

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Executive Update

James Washington
TAPI

 The Arizona Partnership for Immunization
WhyImmunize.org

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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

 **PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS**

Aligning United States Core Childhood Vaccine Recommendations with Best Practices from Peer, Developed Countries

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

 The Arizona Partnership for Immunization
WhyImmunize.org

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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

 The Arizona Partnership for Immunization
WhyImmunize.org

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ADHS Update

Joel Terriquez, MD
ADHS

 The Arizona Partnership for Immunization
WhyImmunize.org

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ADHS update

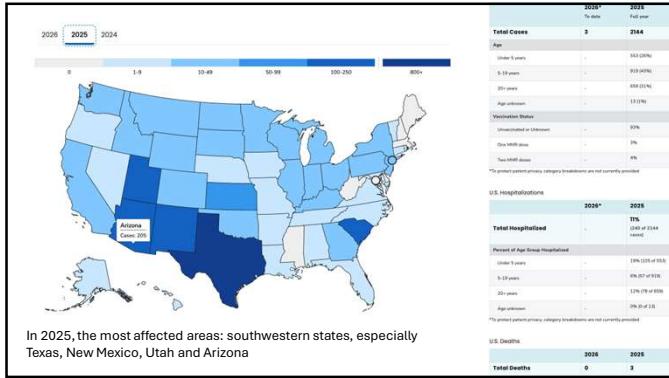
Joel Terriquez MD, CIC, AL-CIP
Arizona Department of Health Services
Bureau of Infectious Diseases Services/Bureau of Immunizations Services

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Current situation

1. Measles
2. Influenza A H3N2
3. Pertussis

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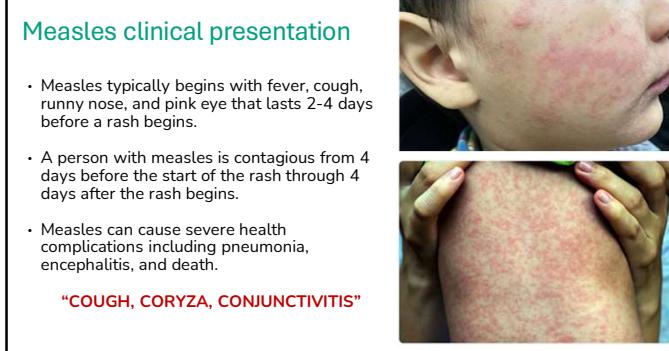
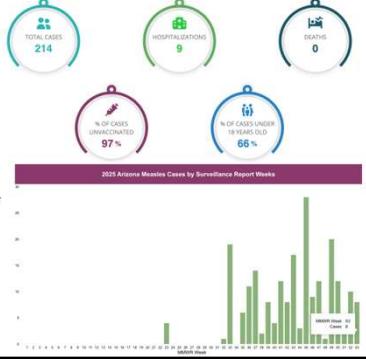


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Measles

- **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**

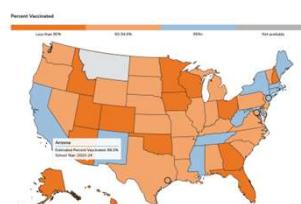
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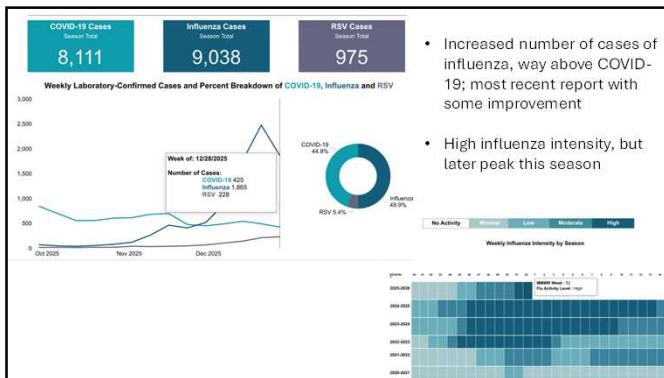
Vaccine

- 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 **Immune Globulin** (if unable to receive MMR vaccine) within 6 days of exposure



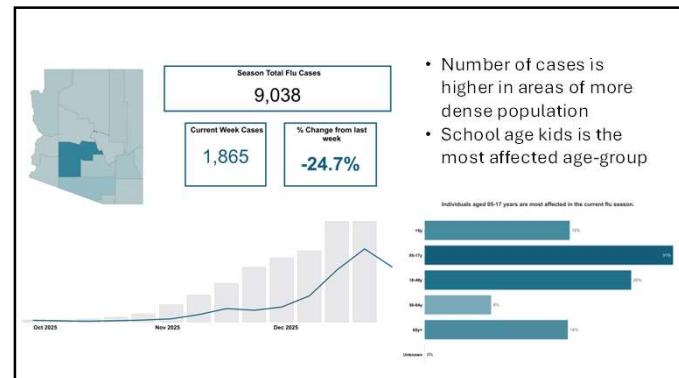
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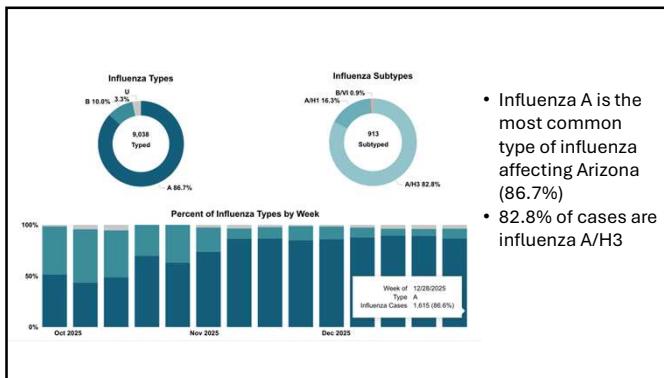
- Increased number of cases of influenza, way above COVID-19; most recent report with some improvement
- High influenza intensity, but later peak this season

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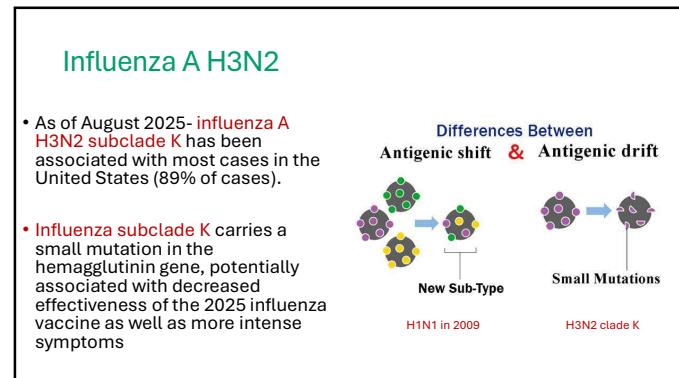
- Number of cases is higher in areas of more dense population
- School age kids is the most affected age-group

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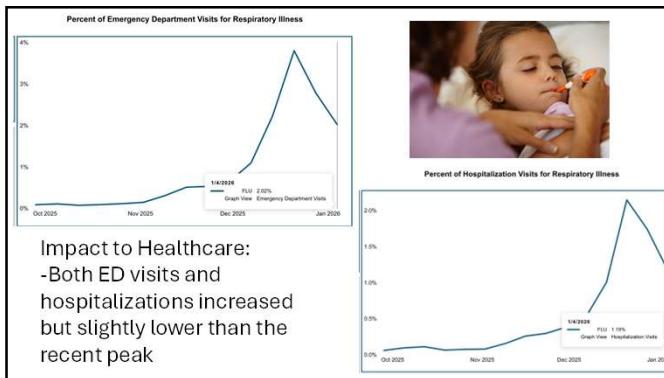


- Influenza A is the most common type of influenza affecting Arizona (86.7%)
- 82.8% of cases are influenza A/H3

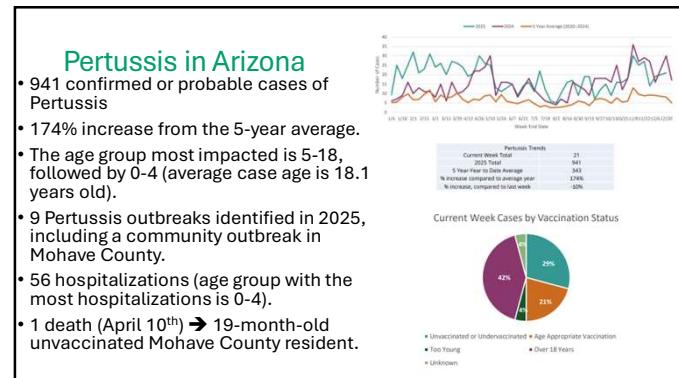
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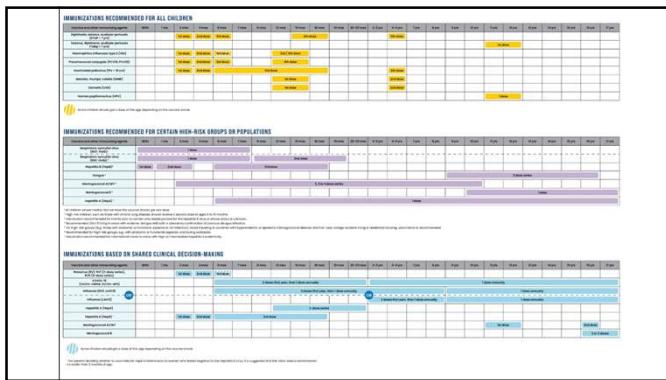


Impact to Healthcare:
-Both ED visits and hospitalizations increased but slightly lower than the recent peak



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CDC's new vaccine recommendations

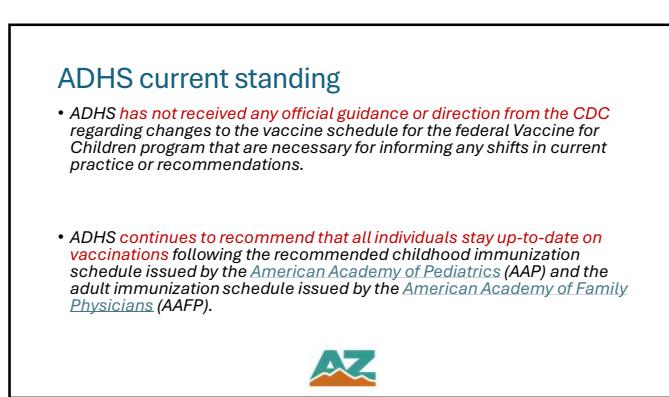
• All children

- DTaP
- Tdap
- Haemophilus influenzae B
- Pneumococcus
- Poliovirus
- MMR
- Varicella
- HPV

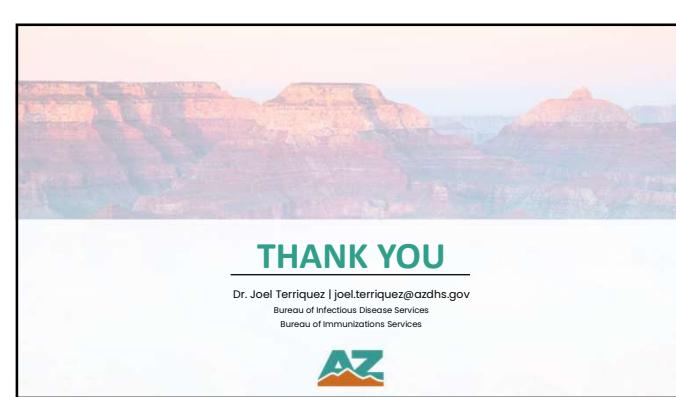
• High risk

- 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

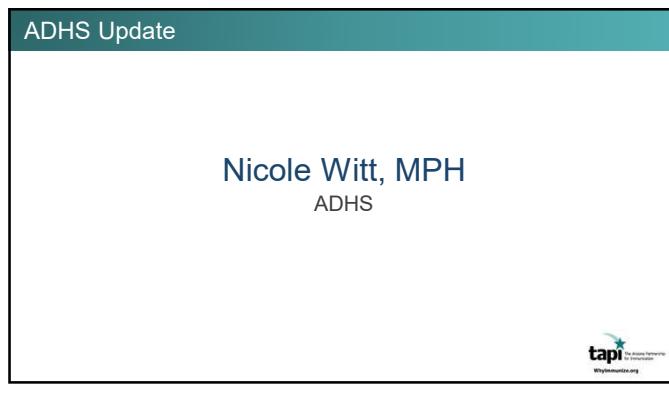
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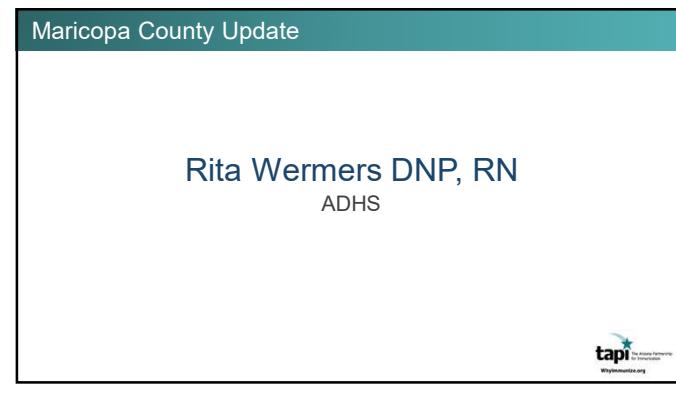
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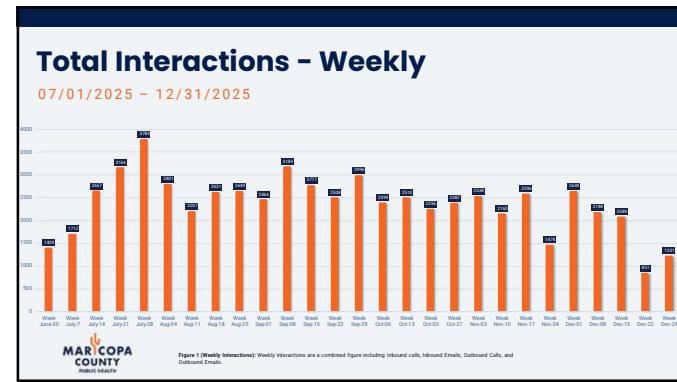
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MARICOPA COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH

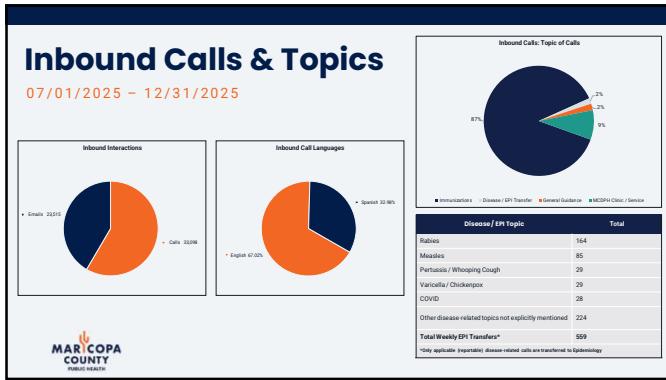
Maricopa County Update

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!

Location	Address
PHOENIX	1645 E RODEO RD, PHOENIX, AZ 85006
GLendale	5141 W LAMAR RD, GLendale, AZ 85301
GOODYEAR	14130 W McDOWELL RD, GOODYEAR, AZ 85338
Mesa	1950 S COUNTY CLUB DR, MESA, AZ 85210

Interactions
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8am - 5pm
Wednesday 8am - 4pm
(Closed 12pm - 1pm)
Phone: (602) 506-4267

STI
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8am - 5pm
Wednesday 8am - 4pm
(Closed 12pm - 1pm)
Appointment call (602) 506-4267

Vital Records
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8am - 4:30pm
Wednesday 8am - 5pm

WIC
Mon-Fri 8:30am
Tue - Thu 12:30pm-4pm
(Closed 12pm - 1pm)
For more info call (602) 506-4333

Interactions
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8am - 5pm
Wednesday 8am - 4pm
(Closed 12pm - 1pm)
Phone: (602) 506-4267

STI
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8am - 5pm
Wednesday 8am - 4pm
(Closed 12pm - 1pm)
Appointment call (602) 506-1678 (Options 2, 3, 4)
or (602) 506-1679 (Options 5, 6)

Vital Records
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8am - 4:30pm
Wednesday 8am - 5pm

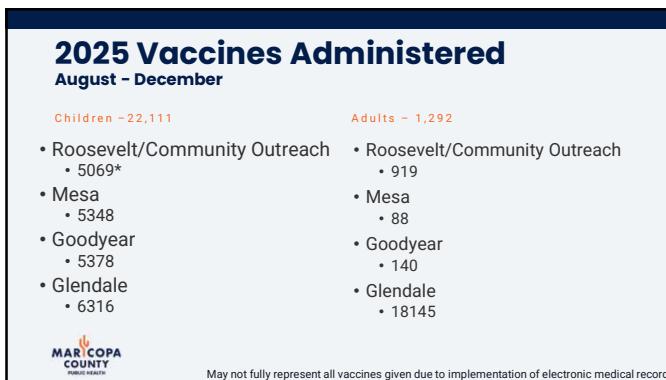
WIC
Mon-Fri 8:30am
Tue - Thu 12:30pm-4:30pm
(Closed 12pm - 1pm)
For more info call (602) 506-4333

Vital Records - Limited Services
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 8:30am - 4pm
Wednesday 8:30am - 3pm
(Closed 12pm - 1pm)

WIC
Mon-Fri 8:30am
Tue - Thu 12:30pm-4:30pm
(Closed 12pm - 1pm)
For more info call (602) 506-4333

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

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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

MARICOPA COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH

30th Anniversary Vaccines for Children

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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

MARICOPA COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH

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January 5, 2026



PIMA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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PIMA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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/AAPF 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 AAFF 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

PIMA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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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



Traveling soon?
Measles can be serious.

Make sure your family has been protected by the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine.

cdc.gov/travel

Measles cases are spreading, but the vaccine can give you up to 97% protection.

- 2 doses: Kids (first dose at 12-15 months and the second at 4-6 years).
- 2 doses: Adults born after 1957 who are traveling, college students, or healthcare workers.
- 1 dose: Most adults born after 1957.



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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 ASILS 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
 - Adolescent pertussis (adolescent cough)
 - Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)
 - Pneumococcal conjugate
 - Tetanus
 - Mumps
 - Varicella
 - Human papillomavirus (HPV)
 - Varicella (chickenpox)
- Recommended for Certain High-Risk Groups or Populations**
 - Varicella
 - Hepatitis A
 - Hepatitis B
 - Meningococcal
- Recommended Based on Shared Clinical Decision-Making**
 - Rotavirus
 - COVID-19
 - Influenza
 - Varicella
 - Hepatitis B
 - Meningococcal

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

- 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 pharmacists 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. [CMS FAQ: CDC FAQ](#)
- Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP) covers those recommended for routine use in children or during pregnancy
- Divorce is customary practice. When divergence of recommendation, adherence to previous practice can be considered reasonable, especially when used by a sizable number of reproductive clinicians
 - switch to ACIP/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 side 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 a Completed Benefits Package → CIC Medical Staff Review Your Package → If You Are Found Eligible for Benefits: → You Will Be Asked for More Documentation → CIC Will Issue a Payment

If You Are Found Eligible for Benefits:

- CIC Will Inform You in Writing of the Disapproval
- If You Do Not Agree with a CIC 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 Confident Campaign)
 - Health Professional, General
 - Term end: December 2027
 - Veronica McNally, J.D.** (previous ACIP consumer rep & I vaccine 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, risks for certain children with mitochondrial disorders, harms of neuroinflammation, and more.

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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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AZ 2026 Advocacy

Now more than ever, AZ children need protection not politics

- Bills already posted (Session started 1/12):
 - Practices can't exclude patients for not being vaccinated
www.azleg.gov/legtext/57leg/2R/bills/HB2005P.pdf
 - Ivermectin over the counter
www.azleg.gov/legtext/57leg/2R/bills/HB2007P.pdf
 - SIDS review to include any vaccines in prior 3 months
<https://apps.azleg.gov/BillStatus/BillOverview/83586>
 - Employer religious exemptions expanded beyond covid to all vaccines and medication
<https://www.azleg.gov/legtext/57leg/2R/bills/SB1016P.pdf>



The image is a 6x6 grid calendar for the 2026 Legislative Session. Each cell contains a small icon representing a committee or subject. The columns are labeled: 2026, Committee to be appointed, Committee to be appointed, Committee to be appointed, Committee to be appointed, and Committee to be appointed. The rows are labeled: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. The grid is mostly empty, with only a few icons visible.

Sign up for advocacy committee for updated bills and taking points:
<https://whyimmunize.org/committees/>

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Bill Supporting Vaccines: immunization rates; disclosure; public schools		
<p>1</p> <p>Introducing a bill to require schools to share immunization coverage rate with parents that request it.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Bill will likely not go anywhere but intended to give legislators talking points for rebuttals on bad bills.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Will provide a packet of information including general talking points, state specific info, economics, polling results, and stories.</p>
<p>Sign up for advocacy committee for updated bills and talking points: https://whyimmunize.org/committee-page/</p>		

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A promotional graphic for the "Arizona Families for Vaccines and Partners Children's Health Advocacy Day" on March 23rd, 2026. It features a QR code, a group photo of diverse children, and logos for various medical and advocacy organizations.

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Communications Update

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<h1>Communications Update</h1>	
<h2>Overview and Talking Points for CDC change in Childhood Schedule</h2>	
<p>Community</p> <p>Overview of what has occurred</p> <p>Recently, the CDC and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recommended changes to the childhood vaccination schedule. These changes were made to ensure vaccines have been recommended more. This is a significant change from the last time the childhood vaccination schedule was updated, which was in 2010. The changes will be effective in January 2018.</p> <p>The changes will affect the childhood vaccination schedule in many ways. These changes concern what the need could be for the health of Adelanto kids. During the continuing time, we will be talking to you about the changes and the reasons why the changes are being made. These changes do not affect Adelanto.</p> <p>What is Shared Clinical Decision-Making (DCM)?</p> <p>Many medical professionals believe that shared clinical decision-making (DCM) is the best way to make medical decisions. DCM is a process where a medical professional (a doctor or nurse) and a patient (a parent or a child) discuss medical information together to make a decision that is best for the patient. This is a process that is used in many medical fields, including dentistry and mental health.</p> <p>Shared clinical decision-making is a process that you and your doctor talk together and decide what is best for you. You and your doctor will discuss the benefits and what matters to you. Then, you can make the choice together.</p> <p>Your doctor will be happy to answer any questions you have when they talk to you about vaccines, even if you don't call a doctor.</p> <p>What Families Should Know About Vaccine Safety</p> <p>1) Vaccines are safe and available</p> <p>Adelanto families can get their vaccines recommended by their doctor or the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) or the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP). These organizations are the ones that recommend what school in many states, including Adelanto, require for school.</p> <p>2) Vaccines are safe and effective</p> <p>This section includes the new option "Shared decision making." Insurance plans, the medical community, and the CDC are all working together to help you prepare for your vaccines. Kids without insurance can still get the vaccines.</p>	<p>3) The science has not changed</p> <p>Vaccines are still the best protection and are effective. They are rigorously studied, monitored, and evaluated by medical professionals – to ensure the best protection and safety for all children.</p> <p>4) New diseases are around</p> <p>Diseases that we once thought were gone are here. They are still present and can spread. Diseases like measles, mumps, rubella, and chickenpox are still around and can spread rapidly – especially for babies, people with weak immune systems, and older adults.</p> <p>What do you or your child need to know about vaccine and your family</p> <p>Speak with your doctor, or a local pharmacist.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure your child is up-to-date on vaccines. If you have any questions, speak with your doctor or pharmacist. They will be happy to answer any questions you have. • Make sure you are up-to-date on vaccines. Your doctor or pharmacist can help you make sure you are up-to-date on vaccines. • Look to trusted groups like the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) (1) and the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) (2) for the vaccines they recommend for every stage of life. <p>What This CDC Recommendation Could Mean for Adelanto</p> <p>Many diseases are currently not seen, because kids get vaccinated. This can lead to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More disease outbreaks (like measles) in schools and childcare • More kids sick with diseases like the measles • Larger kids with more serious illness and hospitalizations

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What Families Should Know About Vaccines Today

- 1) Vaccines are still available
- 2) Vaccines are still no-cost for most families
- 3) The science has not changed
- 4) These diseases are still around



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WhyImmunize.org

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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 - Clinics practices that have improved immunization coverage levels. Verified by AZSIS assessments. Open 1/15
 Big Shot - These awards recognize exceptional efforts of individuals & organizations. Open 1/23



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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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