

CATCH UP NOW:

An Urgent Action Call for Health Plans to Close the Adolescent Vaccination Care Gap

March - May 2021

The United States is facing a significant vaccination gap for school-age children, especially adolescents, due to the pandemic.

Public childhood vaccine doses are down

11.2 million

non-influenza doses as of February 28, 2021



Adolescent rates have significantly dropped.

ADOLESCENT IMMUNIZATION HAS DROPPED PRECIPITOUSLY SINCE THE PANDEMIC HIT

Immunizations provided by the Vaccines for Children program in FY20& 21 as compared to FY19



21%

HPV vaccinations down >1 million doses



22%

Tdap vaccinations down >685K doses



18%

Meningococcal vaccination down >818K

SOURCE: CDC Communications on 3/21



ENSURE YOUR ORGANIZATION HAS A GAME PLAN TO GET ADOLESCENT VACCINATION BACK ON TRACK.

If COVID-19 vaccine is approved for ages 12+ this summer, current recommendations include:



No other vaccines 14 days before

No vaccines 3-4 weeks in between two-dose vaccine

No vaccines 14 days after

This means there's a possibility of an 8 week blackout for recommended vaccines during the usual back-to-school vaccination season.

Stay current with CDC guidelines at: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html>

It is crucial that we catch up on adolescent vaccination earlier than usual in 2021 to ensure a safe return to in-person schooling.

Health plans are part of the solution:



PRIORITIZE ADOLESCENT IMMUNIZATION NOW

- Analyze your data
- Inform your leadership
- Form a team



DEVELOP AN ACTION PLAN FOR MARCH - MAY 2021

- Access new tools & resources
- Educate staff
- Engage IT
- Plan scheduling



VACCINATE KIDS FOR A SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON SCHOOL

- Call patients
- Communicate with members
- Send well child reminder/recalls
- Measure & celebrate progress