



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE**

Oxiris Barbot, MD  
Commissioner

June 8, 2020

**Jane R. Zucker, MD, MSc**  
Assistant Commissioner  
Bureau of Immunization

42-09 28<sup>th</sup> Street, CN21  
Queens, NY 11101-4132

Dear Colleague:

During this unprecedented time, we would like to thank you for the work you have been doing by continuing to—or by returning to—vaccinate children with routine vaccinations. During the two weeks ending 5/30/2020, the number of vaccines administered in New York City to children under two years of age returned to what it was at this time in 2019. This is a tremendous accomplishment, and we appreciate the effort this involved. However, though the number of doses administered to children two years of age and older is increasing weekly, it has not caught up to what it was at this time in 2019; for the week ending 5/30/2020, doses administered to children two years and older was at 62% of what it was at this time last year.

Consequently, we would like you to continue your efforts with vaccinating younger children, especially those who are not up-to-date, and additionally focus on children greater than two years of age, including: 1) four-year-olds, who might have missed, or are now due, their second doses of MMR and varicella, as well as their final doses of DTaP and polio; 2) school-age children, who need to be brought up-to-date on immunizations required for school entry; and 3) older children, including adolescents who need Tdap, meningococcal, and HPV vaccines. If you need more Vaccines for Children (VFC) vaccines, you will be able to order amounts greater than those recommended in the Citywide Immunization Registry (CIR) online ordering screen.

We encourage you to use online tools to facilitate identifying patients who are currently due vaccines. Go to [www.nyc.gov/health/cir](http://www.nyc.gov/health/cir), sign in, click on “Tools” at the top of the page, then on “Create Standard, IQIP, Flu Coverage Reports” to create standard coverage reports, by age. After following the prompts, you will get a coverage report and a list of patients not up-to-date; from this list you can create recall lists of, as well as labels and letters for, patients missing immunizations. If you would like to customize your reports, by age and/or specific immunizations that are needed, and then create lists, letters, or text messages for patients missing immunizations, click on “Recall,” instead of “Tools,” at the top of the page after signing into the Online Registry, and follow the prompts.

We would also like to invite you to our next New York City Coalition for Childhood Immunization Initiatives (Childhood Coalition) meeting, which will be held as a webinar on June 12, 2020, from 12PM-1 PM. The meeting will focus on strategies for the resumption of routine immunization services, prioritizing patients, and an overview of the aforementioned CIR tools. You can register for the meeting at <https://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/5506577/NYC-DOHMH-Coalition-Meeting>

For questions on any immunization issue, including ordering VFC vaccine, please call (347) 396-2400 or email [nycimmunize@health.nyc.gov](mailto:nycimmunize@health.nyc.gov). We thank you for your continuing efforts at protecting NYC residents from vaccine-preventable diseases.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane R. Zucker".

Jane R. Zucker, MD, MSc