

Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)

- ACIP met September 18-19.
 Topics discussed:
 Update on workgroups
 MMRV
 Hepatitis B
 COVID-19



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ACIP Workgroups



- ACIP uses subgroups of the committee, known as work groups, to review relevant published and unpublished data and develop recommendation options for presentation to the ACIP.
- Work groups review specific topics in detail and clarify issues in a way that helps ACIP voting members make informed and efficient decisions, with the best and most current information available.
- At the September 2025 meeting, it was announced that two new workgroups would be
- Vaccines in pregnancy
- Childhood/adolescent schedule (as a whole)

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September 2025 ACIP

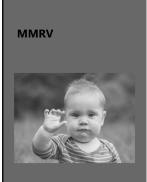
MMRV



- There are two options for protection against measles, mumps, rubella and varicella in
- · Separate MMR and Varicella vaccines
- MMRV
- · History:
- September 2005: MMRV licensed and ACIP expressed a preference over separate
- February 2008: vaccine safety finding of increased risk of febrile seizures after the first dose of MMRV.
 No evidence of increased febrile seizures after dose 2 at 4-6 years of age.
- June 2009: ACIP updated recommendations, removed the preference for MMRV in children <48 months and encouraged providers to have a conversation with parents about risks/benefits. Dakota | Health & Human Serv

September 2025 ACIP

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- Febrile seizure: type of seizure that can affect otherwise healthy children around the time they have a fever.
- Happen in 3-4 out of 100 children.
- · No evidence of harm to child, but scary.
- About 1 in 3,000 (0.03%) children may experience a febrile seizure after the first dose of MMR vaccine.
- For MMRV, the risk is slightly higher, about one extra febrile seizure for every 2,300 – 2,600 children (0.04%).
- · The baseline for febrile seizures after a viral infection is 2-5%.

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ur Local Epidemiologist, September 18, 2025

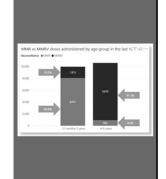
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Revised MMRV Recommendation

- For measles, mumps, rubella, varicella vaccines given before age 4 years, the combined MMRV vaccine is not recommended.
- Children in this age group should receive separate measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine, and the varicella vaccine (MMR+V).



September 2025 ACIP



Hepatitis B



- Hepatitis B is a virus that attacks the liver and can cause lifelong infection.
- · There is not a cure for hepatitis B.
- Chronic hepatitis B causes cirrhosis, liver cancer and liver failure.
- Newborns are especially vulnerable to hepatitis B. 9 in 10 infants who get it become chronically infected compared to 1 in 10 adults.
- About 25% of chronically infected children eventually die from liver disease.
- In North Dakota, we have between 20 to 40 mothers who are positive for hepatitis B deliver each year.
- In the 1980s, before a universal hepatitis B birth dose was recommended in 1991, about 18,000 children under age 10 were infected with hepatitis B each year, half of them at birth.
- Today, CDC reports fewer than 20 cases per year.

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September 2025 ACIP and Your Local Epidemiologist, September 18, 2025

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Hepatitis B



- Why universal birth dose recommendation?
- About 15% of mothers are never screened for hepatitis B during pregnancy, despite recommendations.
- About 12-16% of mothers get no prenatal care at all.
- More than half of all hepatitis B cases are asymptomatic and up to 60% of people are unaware that they are infected with the virus.
- The only safety signal for hepatitis B vaccine found is rare allergic reactions at a rate of 1 per 2-3 million doses administered.
- In Quarter 1 of 2025, 81.2% of North Dakota newborns received the hepatitis B birth dose according to the NDIIS.

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For decades, ACIP has recommended that the first dose of universal infant hepatitis B vaccination among infants born to HBsAg(-) women occur close to birth.

ACIP hepatitis B infant vaccination recommendations, United States

Recommendation	Current?	Date of Initial Recommendation	Date Recommendation Superseded or Modified
Infant vaccination strategies			
Universal HepB vaccine before leaving the birth hospital* or within 2 months of age	No	19914	20056
Universal HepB vaccine at the birth hospital*	No	20056	20185
University of the Address of the Add	Ves	20185	

Modified from Bixler PHR 2023, Suppl Table 2.

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ACMP - Advisory Committee on Immunipation Practices; HBIG = hepatitis B immune globulin; HepB, hepatitis B vaccine.
**Only single-antigen HepB vaccine should be used for the birth door.
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Note: All hepatitis 8 birth dose vaccinations are considered to be the first dose of the infant series except among pre-term infants weighing <2,000 grams who are born to mothers who are H84Ag positive.

1.CDC. MMWR Morb Mortal Widy Rep 37, 341-346, 331 (1988). CDC. MMWR Morb Mortal Widy Rep 38, 385-290 (1984). 3. CDC. Update on hepatitis B prevention. MMWR Morb Mortal Widy Rep 36, 360, 366 (1987). 4.CDC. Recommendations of the Immunitation Practices Advisory Committee (ACIP). MMWR Recomm Rep 40, 1-25 (1991). S. schille, S. et al. MMWR Recomm Rep 67, 1-31 (2018). 6.

Mar F. C. et al. MMMW Becomme Rep 61, 1-31 (2005). 7. Biolect Rep 40, 1-25 (1991). S. schille, S. et al. MMWR Recomme Rep 67, 1-31 (2018). 6.

Proposed ACIP
Hepatitis B
Recommendations

ACIP decided to postpone the vote regarding the hepatitis B birth dose.

Hepatitis B Vaccine - Vote #2

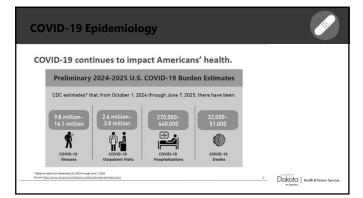
The pediatric vaccine schedule should be updated to reflect the following change:

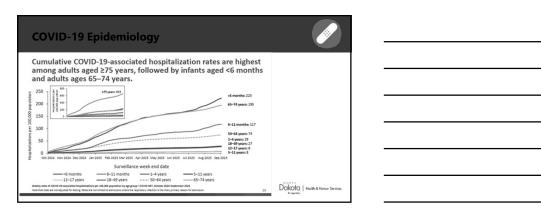
If a mother tests HBsAG-negative:

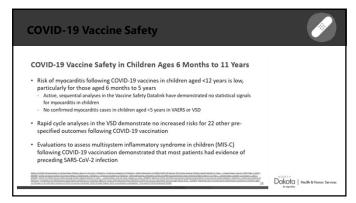
The first dose of the Hepatitis B vaccine is not given until the child is at least one month old.

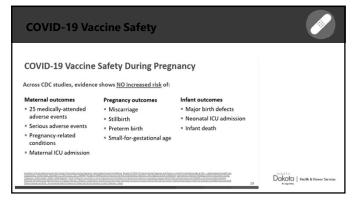
Infants may receive a dose of Hepatitis B vaccine before one month according to individual based decision-making.*

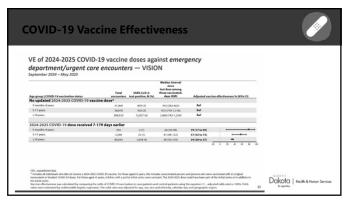
*Also referred to as shared clinical decision-making.

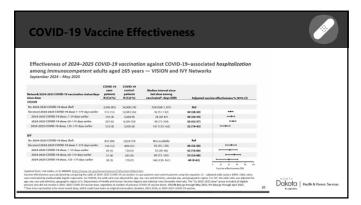


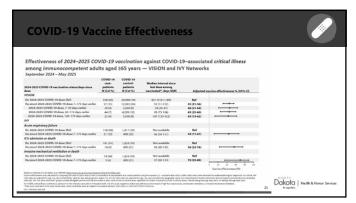


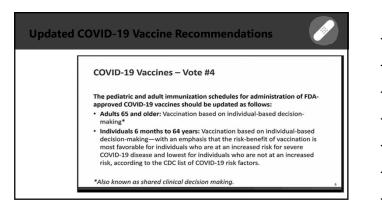












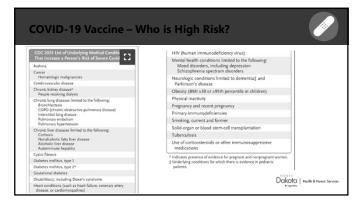
Shared Clinical Decision Making



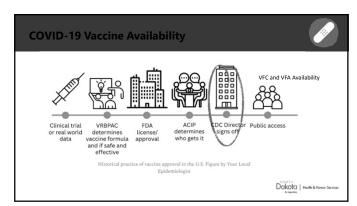
- Shared clinical decision-making vaccinations are individually based and informed by a decision
 process between the health care provider and the patient or parent/guardian.
- In this context, CDC defines a health care provider as anyone who provides or administers
 vaccines: primary care physicians, specialists, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, registered
 nurses, and pharmacists.
- The ACA coverage requirement includes shared clinical decision-making recommendations when they have been adopted by CDC and are listed on the immunization schedules.
- Other ACIP shared clinical decision-making recommendations:
- Men B for 16-23 year olds
- Hepatitis B for adults ages 60 years and older with diabetes
- HPV for adults ages 27-45
- Pneumococcal for adults ages 65 and older who have previously completed PCV13 and PPSV 23
- Additional doses of COVID-19 vaccine for immunocompromised ACIP Shared Clinical Decision-Making Recommendations | ACIP | CDC

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Vaccine Integrity Project



- Vaccine Integrity Project (<u>VIP</u>): Convened a group of immunization experts to review the latest data regarding epidemiology, vaccine effectiveness, safety, and co-administration for influenza, COVID-19 and RSV immunizations.
- Data presented August 19, 2025.
- Data being utilized by numerous medical associations to make recommendations.
- Key Findings:
- Respiratory viruses, including influenza, COVID-19, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) pose a significant threat to the health of all populations studied in this review. This initial systematic review and meta-analysis reviewed the evidence for children, immunocompromised adults, and pregnancy, and searched for more than 15 severe adverse
- events of special interest.
- Immunizations are an effective tool to reduce health risks for all populations from flu, COVID, and RSV, and have a strong safety profile. The studies reviewed since the 2023/2024 Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) meeting found no significantly elevated safety risks from US-licensed immunizations for these conditions.

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COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations - AAP



- AAP recommends a COVID-19 vaccine for all children ages 6 through 23 months old to help protect against serious illness.
- AAP also recommends a single dose of age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccine for all children and adolescents 2 through 18 years of age in the following risk groups :
- Persons at high risk of severe COVID-19
- · Residents of long-term care facilities or other congregate settings
- Persons who have never been vaccinated against COVID-19
- Persons whose household contacts are at high risk for severe COVID-19
- AAP also recommends the vaccine be available for children ages 2-18 who do not fall

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COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations - ACOG



- ACOG recommends that patients receive an updated COVID-19 vaccine or booster:
- · at any point during pregnancy;
- in the postpartum period;
- · when planning to become pregnant; or
- · when lactating.

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COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations - AAFP



All adults 18 years and older should receive a COVID-19 vaccine. It is especially important to get a COVID-19 vaccine if you are:

- 65 years and older;
- At increased risk for severe COVID-19 infection; and
- Have never received a COVID-19 vaccine.

All children aged 6 – 23 months receive a primary series and risk-based single dose for children and teen 2-18 years

• Recommendations align with the American <u>Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)</u>.

Pregnant women any time during pregnancy and during lactation

• Aligned with the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecologists (ACOG)

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How to Use Today's Presentation

- \bullet First, a question commonly asked of the Immunization Program will be presented.
- Next, answer choices will be shown.
- A poll will appear on your screen
 - Discuss the question amongst your group and choose an answer.
 - All participants will have 1 minute to answer.
- The correct answer and the results will be shown after 1 minute.
 - Individual responses will not be displayed.

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Your clinic has a 20- year-old on Medicaid that needs vaccines. Are they eligible for the VFA program?	
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Are they eligible for the VFA program?

- A) Yes, but they are only eligible for certain vaccines.
- B) No, adults on Medicaid should receive private vaccine.
- C) Yes, all patients regardless of age that have Medicaid should receive public vaccine.

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Are all vaccines available through the VFA program?	
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Are all vaccines available through the VFA program?

- A) All vaccines that are on the CDC federal contract are available for un/underinsured adults.
- B) Only specific vaccines listed on the Immunization Units Immunization Coverage Table are available for un/underinsured adults.
- C) The Immunization Unit does not offer any vaccines for adults.

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VFA Program Eligibility

- Un/underinsured adults:
 - Td/Tdap
 - MCV4
 - MMR
 - PPSV23 and Pneumococcal Conjugate (PCV15, PCV20 and PCV21) & Updated*

 - Proves and Pneumococcal Conjugate (PCV15, PCV20 and PCV21) acupatera*

 19-49 years and older for un/underinsured

 50 years and older for un/underinsured and state-supplied vaccines cannot be used.

 Advantage plans are considered insured and state-supplied vaccines cannot be used.

 19-49 years with a high-risk condition

 50 years and older for un/underinsured

 Medicare Part B covers pneumococcal vaccine, therefore adults who have Medicare Part B and most Medicare Advantage plans are considered insured and state-supplied vaccines cannot be used.



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VFA Program Eligibility, cont.

- Un/underinsured adults:
 - HPV
 - 19 45 years of age
 - Influenza

 - Available for uninsured and underinsured adults 19 years and older at provider facilities that have prebooked adult doses.
 Medicare Part B covers Influenza vaccine, therefore adults who have Medicare Part B and most Medicare Advantage plans are considered insured and state supplied vaccines cannot be used.

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VFA Program Eligibility

- Un/underinsured adults:
 - COVID-19 vaccine

 - .UVID-19 VaCCINE

 19 years and older

 Most important for •
 Everyone 65 years and older

 Individuals 6 months 64 years with a high risk condition.

 Medicare Part B covers COVID-19 vaccine, therefore adults who have Medicare Part B and most Medicare Advantage plans are Condicated insured and 19% vaccines cannot be used.
 - Mpox

 - Mpox is also available in limited quantities for use in insured individuals. Available to facilities who
 otherwise could not/would not order for insured individuals.
 Please leave a comment when ordering whether this vaccine will be used for insured or un/underinsured
 adults.

VFA Program Eligibility, cont.

- Un/underinsured adults:
 - IPV
 - Adult Hepatitis A and B

 - Not available to adults whose sole purpose of vaccination is for travel or employment.

 Should be prioritized for those at risk of infection such as drug users and people experiencing homelessness.

 For a complete list of risk factors please consult the vaccine coverage table at:

 www.hhs.nd.gov/immunizations/providers

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Is COVID-19 vaccine going to be available for children this upcoming season?

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Is COVID-19 vaccine going to be available for children this upcoming season?

- A) Yes, COVID-19 vaccine for children will still be available for shared clinical decision making.
- B) Yes, COVID-19 vaccine but for high-risk children only.
- C) No, COVID-19 vaccine is no longer recommended for children.

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Can our clinic continue to use private stock COVID-19 vaccine and bill Medicaid for the vaccine and administration fee?

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Can our clinic continue to use private stock COVID-19 vaccine and bill Medicaid for the vaccine and administration fee?

- A) Yes, ND Medicaid has agreed to reimburse for private stock COVID-19 vaccine to ensure children have access throughout the respiratory season.
- B) No, once enrolled facilities have VFC COVID-19 vaccine they must use publicly supplied COVID-19 for Medicaid children.
- C) No, ND Medicaid does not reimburse for any vaccines since they are available through the VFC program.

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I administered a dose of COVID-19 vaccine and the dose shows invalid in NDIIS. Does this dose need to be repeated?

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Does this dose need to be repeated?

- A) No, the NDIIS forecaster has not yet been updated with the new ACIP recommendation.
- B) Yes, because the doses were administered prior to the ACIP recommendation being signed by the CDC director.
- C) No, because the NDIIS is unable to track high risk conditions all doses of the 2025-2026 COVID-19 vaccine will be invalid.

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NDIIS Forecaster

- The NDIIS forecaster will be updated to include the recommendations for the new 2025-2026 respiratory season. This update will included only the recommendations for seasonal influenza vaccine and RSV mAB.
- COVID-19 vaccine recommendations are not part of this update. As a reminder, the forecaster will not have the rules for any new or updated recommendations until after the vendor can get the necessary changes made, which typically takes a few weeks after the ACIP recommendations are signed off on by the CDC director and are formally published in the CDC MMWR.
- Doses of 2025-2026 COVID-19 vaccine administered may temporarily show as invalid in the NDIIS based on previous vaccination history until the forecaster updates are complete in the NDIIS.
- The NDHHS Immunization Unit will provide an update as soon as the forecaster has been updated to include recommendations for COVID-19 for the current respiratory season.

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North Dakota Medicaid Coverage

- Medicaid is currently reimbursing the cost of COVID-19 vaccine and the administration fee for children through age 18 who are enrolled in North Dakota Medicaid while supply through VFC was pending.
- As allocations are small North Medicaid North Dakota Medicaid has agreed to continue to reimburse the cost of these vaccines until providers receive their VFC Vaccine.
- As soon as providers receive their VFC vaccine they should return to using VFC supply for COVID-19 vaccine. ND HHS will notify providers when North Dakota Medicaid will no longer be reimbursing these doses.

2025-2026	COVID-19 Vaccine	
Current COVID-19 Va	ccine Recommendations for 2025-2026	
Children 6m and older	Shared clinical decision-making vaccinations are informed by a decision process between the heal patient or parent/guardian	
	Most Important for: • Everyone 65 years and older • Individuals 6 months - 64 years with a <u>high risk cond</u>	ition
	dation has been signed by the CDC director and the 25-2026 COVID-19 vaccine is currently under way for	Dakota Health & Human Se

Will ND HHS be issuing COVID-19 vaccine standing order templates?

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Will ND HHS be issuing COVID-19 vaccine standing order templates?

- A) Now that ACIP recommendation has been signed by the CDC director ND HHS will be providing standing order templates.
- B) No, ND HHS does not provide standing order templates.
- C) Yes, ND HHS currently has templates available to providers that are in need.

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Standing Order Templates

- The ND HHS immunization unit does not provide our own COVID-19 vaccine specific recommendations nor does this office develop standing order templates.
- Other states (Washington) and organizations (Immunize.org) may have templates that providers can use to draft their own standing orders. Or work with your medical director to draft language.

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Do doses of MMRV administered to children under four years of age need to be repeated since age this is no longer recommended to receive the combination vaccine?

Do doses of MMRV	under	four	years	of	age
need to be repeated	d?		_		_

- A) Yes, because these doses are no longer recommended for this age group children should be revaccinated.
- B) No, the doses are valid and provide protection to this age group, the recommendation was removed due to concerns over febrile seizures.
- C) Maybe, if the child had a fever following the dose it may be recommended to be repeated.

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Do doses of MMRV under four years of age need to be repeated?

- A) Yes, because these doses are no longer recommended for this age group children should be revaccinated.
- B) No, the doses are valid and provide protection to this age group, the recommendation was removed due to concerns over febrile seizures.
- C) Maybe, if the child had a fever following the dose it may be recommended to be repeated.

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How do we document in an infant's NDIIS record that their mother received Abrysvo and therefore the infant doesn't need a dose of RSV mAb?

How do we document a dose of maternal Abrysvo in an infants NDIIS record?

- A) The best way would be to enter a medical exemption in the infants NDIIS record. This will remove the forecast for RSV mAb.
- B) There isn't currently a way to do this so it should be documented in the baby's record in the EMR.
- C) Add a dose of RSV mAb on the date of birth to remove the forecasted dose.
- D) All babies should receive a dose of RSV mAb regardless of the mother's vaccination history.

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Are mothers recommended to receive another dose of RSV vaccine if they are pregnant again and received it with their last pregnancy?

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and received it with their last pregnancy?

- A) Yes, it should be administered to all pregnant women regardless of previous vaccination history.
- B) Yes, but only if the provider feels the baby won't receive a dose of RSV mAb.
- C) No, pregnant women are currently only recommended to receive one dose of RSV vaccine ever.

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RSV Vaccination

 RSV vaccination during pregnancy is only recommended for pregnant people who have not previously received an RSV vaccine and who are at the recommended stage of pregnancy (32 weeks through 36 weeks 6 days' gestation) during the recommended time of year (typically September through January).

You entered a return in NDIIS and have not received the return shipping label. How do we get the label?

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How do we get the label?

- A) Submit another vaccine return in NDIIS for the vaccine to be returned.
- B) Contact the Immunization Unit at $\underline{vaccine@nd.gov}$ to request the return shipping label.
- C) Use the same return label that you previously used since they are shipped back to the same place.

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Submitting a Vaccine Return and Wastage

- Users must review and validate their provider site's contact information before they can complete the return or wastage.
- If the information is correct, the user can select the enabled button and complete their return or wastage.
- If changes are needed, the user should select Edit Provider Information and they will be taken to their provider site's program enrollment information where updates can be made. The in-progress order will be saved while the edits are made.



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Vaccine Returns and Wastages

- Vaccine return removes available doses from provider inventory that is no longer viable and needs to be returned to McKesson. These doses include expired inventory, doses spoiled because of a temperature excursion or because of a vaccine recall.
 - The doses for returns and wastages that have been submitted will not decrement from provider inventory until the return or wastage has been submitted to CDC
- Multi-dose vials (MDV) can only be returned if no doses have been drawn from the vial.
- Vaccine returns should be entered and vaccine sent back to McKesson within 6 months of expiring. Vaccines that expired more than 12 months ago will not appear in the NDIIS return or wastage modules.

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Vaccine Returns and Wastages

- The return shipping label will be sent to the primary vaccine contact in NDIIS. The label will come from UPS.
- If you have not received your return shipping label within 2 days of the vaccine return being submitted to CDC please check your junk and span folders and if nothing contact the Immunization Unit at vaccine@nd.gov
- An email will be sent to both the primary and back up contacts in NDIIS when the packing slip is ready in NDIIS.



Packing Slips and Return Labels

- Shipping labels are only good for 30 days and cannot be saved to use on future returns as they each have an unique identifier that corresponds to the packing slip.
- Multiple returns can be sent back in one box, all packing slips and return label need to be placed in the box as well.

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Post-Test

- Successfully complete the five-question post-test to receive your certificate for nursing credit using the link below: https://ndhealth.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3UCKbtlA6D9Zv7g
- Credit for this session will be available until November 12, 2025.
- This presentation will be posted to our website at: www.hhs.nd.gov/immunizations

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