



American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™



Ohio Chapter

Whales Tales

Keeping MOBI Trainers Informed

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Welcome to Whale's Tales, a periodic bulletin written for the MOBI Trainer. Whale's Tales reports the pertinent information about statewide MOBI training activities, trainer experiences, challenges and immunization information that impact the MOBI trainer and course participant.

Congratulations and thank you to MOBI trainers for scheduling and/or presenting close to **600 programs** since the start of 2014! It is an unprecedented number of programs, our largest in MOBI's 18 year history!



From Our Medical Director

WHAT'S OUT THERE: INFLUENZA

As I am writing this letter, more than half of the United States is reporting influenza activity. Ohio and its neighboring states are reporting widespread flu activity according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).¹ Influenza A is dominating and most of the activity is due to the H3N2 virus. Unfortunately, only about 30% of these H3N2 viruses are similar to the vaccine component (A/Texas/50/2012-like). The rest are similar to the A/Switzerland/9715293/2013 virus which is a drifted virus and therefore, the vaccine may not offer as much protection as we would have desired. So far, all the flu viruses tested are susceptible to oseltamivir (Tamiflu).

Over the course of this influenza season, the messages regarding flu vaccines for children have changed. You may have noticed ads stating that the live attenuated flu vaccine (LAIV, the nasal spray) offers better protection than the inactivated vaccine (IIV, intramuscular shot) for children 2 to 8 years of age. This statement was based on an earlier study published in the New England Journal of Medicine in 2007.² New observational data from the U.S. Flu Vaccine Effectiveness Network³ during the 2013-2014 influenza season unexpectedly showed that LAIV was not effective against the A/H1N1 virus when compared to IIV in children 2 to 8 years of age. The 2014-2015 LAIV vaccine has the same A/H1N1 strain as the 2013-2014 vaccine so this year's LAIV is not expected to offer protection against the A/H1N1 virus.

This issue of vaccine effectiveness is being further studied. Meanwhile, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has stated that healthy children 2 to 8 years of age may be immunized with either LAIV or IIV (no preference). Past studies^{2,4} have demonstrated that LAIV may offer better protection than IIV when the H3N2 and B viruses have drifted and are not as similar to the vaccine strain. This is the current situation so the hope is that the LAIV vaccine may offer better protection than IIV against the drifted H3N2 virus, but this remains to be proven.

So what does the AAP currently recommend?

- Immunize as many children as possible to protect against influenza.
- All children > 6 months of age who are eligible for influenza vaccine should continue to be immunized against flu at the earliest opportunity.
- Any licensed and age-appropriate influenza vaccine available should be used. Do not delay vaccination to obtain a specific product.
- Children who require only 1 dose of influenza vaccine this season and who have already received LAIV do not need to be re-immunized with IIV.
- Children who need 2 doses of influenza vaccine this season may get any combination of available licensed and age-appropriate flu vaccine.

References

1. Available at www.cdc.gov/flu. Accessed December 22, 2014.
2. N Engl J Med. 2007;356:685-96.
3. Data presented at the 10/29/14 ACIP meeting.
4. Pediatrics. 2007;120:e553-e564.

Be sure to contact either myself (rebecca.brady@cchmc.org) or Melanie (mfarkas@ohioaap.org) if you have any questions.

THANK YOU,

Rebecca Brady MD

Breaking News

Child Care Immunizations: The Child Care Immunization Bill passed in December 2014 and Gov. John Kasich is expected to sign it into law sometime in January 2015. Ohio had been the only state without a requirement for children entering state-licensed child care to be vaccinated. Just as Ohio law allows for children entering Kindergarten, this bill allows for exemptions for medical reasons and reasons of conscience. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services will be distributing a new Child Medical Form with the updated language. You may find more information on this law at OhioAAP.org.

Pharmacists & Immunizations: A bill allowing pharmacists to immunize some children also passed the Ohio legislator and is expected to be signed into law in January 2015. You may also find details on this legislation at OhioAAP.org.

Welcome New MOBI Member:

Please welcome Kaley Langenderfer to Ohio AAP! Among other duties, Kaley will be working with the MOBI program in key areas such as assisting in the upcoming TTT Workshop, mailings, and continuing education certificates, just to name a few. With close to 600 programs a year, Kaley will be an invaluable member of the MOBI team. Welcome, Kaley!

Training News:

MOBI TTT Workshop: Mark the date, time and location change! The annual MOBI Train-the-Trainer (TTT) workshop will take place on **Wednesday, February 25, 2015 from 10:00am to 3:30pm**. This workshop is scheduled nearly a month earlier in the year, giving trainers more time to complete presentations during the remainder of the year. The workshop will be held at a new location, the **Holiday Inn Worthington located at 7007 N High Street in Worthington**. This workshop is expanded to a full day workshop because of the many exciting new curriculum features that will be a part of the 2015 MOBI Program. Go to this link to register: <http://ohioaap.org/mobi-2015-TTT>

This workshop is for ALL trainers, whether you are experienced or new to the program or planning to present a MOBI presentation in 2015. Trainers **MUST** attend this February MOBI TTT workshop in order to present the 2015 MOBI curriculum.

Lunch is not provided, but there are numerous restaurants in the immediate area, including at the Worthington Mall directly across the street. A lunch hour will be provided.

There will be a follow-up workshop set for **March 18, 2015 from 10:00am to 3:30pm at the Ohio AAP Offices in North Columbus**, for those not able to attend the February workshop for a limited number of participants. Registration is now open on the MOBI website. Please contact Melanie Farkas with any questions or concerns at 614-846-6258 or by email at mfarkas@ohioaap.org.

Reminder for Trainers: MOBI recycles your old trainer's manuals, resource packs and flash drives that you may have. Bring it all to the workshop and we will make sure it is recycled.

Continuing Education: The MOBI Train-the-Trainer Workshop will offer Nursing Contact hours. Participants who successfully complete the entire activity and complete an evaluation will earn 4.08 contact hours. This continuing education activity was approved by the Ohio Nurses Association (OBN-001-91), an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

Approval valid through 3/31/2016

Assigned ONA # 17172

End of the year MOBI Paperwork: It's that time of year again, with only days before the new year begins. With this, MOBI needs ALL MOBI paperwork from your 2014 MOBI presentations to be mailed into our Worthington office. This includes the MOBI Evaluation/Feedback forms, Best Practice forms, Pre and Post Surveys and attendance list. Please contact Melanie Farkas with any questions at 614-846-6258 or by email at mfarkas@ohioaap.org.

News Splash:

There is a NEW Online Program Planner, just released days ago in a December 11, 2014 email from Melanie Farkas. Melanie redesigned the form after feedback from all of you! This new program planner is easy and quick to fill out. The MOBI Office no longer accepts paper Program Planners.

Some of the improvements include:

- Trainers can choose their health department from a pre-populated list.
- Trainers no longer must fill out all of their contact information each time they fill out a planner.
- Trainers rescheduling a program do not have to fill out a new planner, they merely need to notify Melanie via email.
- Trainers no longer have to fill out multiple planners for a training that involves multiple practices. There is now the ability to list all the practices attending.

Please note there is a new section on the program planner related to MODULES. Please leave this blank, as this section will be introduced at the 2015 MOBI TTT Workshop.

The new program planner can be accessed at www.ohioaap.org/forms. This new program planner joins the online attendance list, the trainer feedback form and the MOBI One-month follow-up form as the latest on-line process for MOBI presentations. **NOTE:** TIES Trainers should use the "old style" program planner for their 2015 programs. A link to this planner remains on the "forms" page. Please contact Melanie Farkas with any questions at 614-846-6258 or by email at mfarkas@ohioaap.org

Updated MOBI Resources: Below are newly updated MOBI Resource Pack resources with the accompanying links:

- It's Federal Law! (10/14) <http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2027.pdf>
- Checklist for vaccine storage and handling (12/14) <http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p3035.pdf>

Trainers are encouraged to print a copy of the updated resources to include in your upcoming MOBI presentation if time and budget allows. To help with printing costs, the MOBI office prints resources 2-3 times a year and does not re-stock resources every time they are updated. In the yellow office resource packet, practices are also given a password to the "Practice Resource Page" on the Ohio AAP website that has links to all updated resources.

Prior to upcoming MOBI's, please visit the MOBI website throughout the year to find updated resources, that may have missed our print deadlines for inclusion into the MOBI resource packs. Here is the link:
<http://www.ohioaap.org/projects/maximizing-office-based-immunization-mobi/>

Thank You,

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