



Whale's Tales

A newsletter for the MOBI and TIES Trainer

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June 2018

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

From the Medical Directors:

Big changes are coming to the MOBI/TIES Train the Trainer Event on 7/18/18 at the Mid-Ohio Foodbank! We will all be in person for the training that day. Registration begins at 9:30am and the session starts promptly at 10am. For the event we are offering 2 tracks, one for the experienced trainers, and one for the new trainers! Experienced trainers have the choice to attend either session. **New trainers must attend the MOBI Foundations Track.**

Thank you to our Medical Directors, advisory and project teams which include trainers, and the Ohio Department of Health for providing feedback and guidance on this new set up. We hope that both the new trainers and the experienced trainers find value added with this change, and perhaps more can be learned and experienced together to make this grant year GREAT!

Lunch will be on your own from 12:30-1:10pm. We will have access to refrigeration for those who wish to bring their own lunch. Additionally, there are many food options located within a short distance of the facility. We realize there is not a lot of time for lunch. Please feel free to eat during our next session beginning at 1:10pm as time for lunch is limited.

Be on the look-out for an email coming soon with Directions to Mid-Ohio Foodbank, lunch options nearby, and the agenda.

Please contact Beth if you have any questions and we will see everyone soon!

Rebecca Brady, MD, FAAP & Robert Frenck, Jr., MD, FAAP

Which Flu Vaccine Should I Recommend for My Patients This Fall?

For the upcoming 2018-19 flu season, two flu vaccines will be available for healthy children > 2 years of age:

- Inactivated influenza vaccine or IIV (intramuscular shot in the arm)
- Live, attenuated influenza vaccine or LAIV (intranasal or nasal spray)

Last flu season, LAIV was not available because it had not demonstrated any statistically significant effectiveness against the influenza A/H1N1 strain among children 2 to 17 years of age when the 2010-11 to the 2016-17 flu seasons were reviewed. However, LAIV was more effective against influenza B strains and similarly effective against influenza A/H3N2 strains when compared to IIV.

For the upcoming flu season, the manufacturer of LAIV has replaced the current A/H1N1 vaccine strain with a new A/H1N1 strain that in the laboratory replicates better in the nose and induces higher antibody responses than the prior strain. However, there are no published effectiveness estimates for this new vaccine strain formulation against influenza A/H1N1 viruses because influenza A/H3N2 and B viruses were the predominant circulating viruses during the last season.

The recommendations of the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) for the 2018-19 influenza season are:

Providers may choose to administer any licensed, age-appropriate influenza vaccine (IIV or LAIV). LAIV is an option for those for whom it is otherwise appropriate. No preference is expressed for any influenza vaccine product. ACIP will continue to review data concerning the effectiveness of LAIV as they become available. Providers should be aware that the effectiveness of the updated LAIV A/H1N1 strain against currently circulating A/H1N1 pandemic09-like viruses is not yet known.

The ACIP noted that US national influenza vaccine coverage among children did not decline substantially during seasons in which LAIV was not available but did note that overall vaccination coverage remains suboptimal. Additional options, including use of LAIV, might provide a means to improve coverage, particularly in school-based settings.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) chose a more conservative approach and made a flu vaccine preference for the 2018-19 influenza season.

AAP recommends IIV as the primary choice for all children because the effectiveness of LAIV was inferior against A/H1N1 during past seasons and the effectiveness of LAIV against A/H1N1 for the upcoming season is not known.

LAIV may be offered for children who would not otherwise receive an influenza vaccine (and for whom it is appropriate for age and health status).

Families should receive counseling on these revised recommendations for the 2018-19 season.

As always, we try to predict which influenza strains will circulate in the upcoming season, but we do not always get it right. The effectiveness of influenza vaccines varies because of factors related to the vaccines, the circulating viruses, and individual patients. Even some protection may prevent an influenza hospitalization or death.

BOTTOM LINE:

What should I say to my patients and their families about flu vaccine options for the 2018-19 season?

- **MOST IMPORTANT: GET A FLU VACCINE** –they are recommended for everyone 6 months of age and older.
- Both IIV and LAIV are available for healthy children > 2 years of age.
- ACIP made no preference.
- AAP is recommending IIV as the primary choice because the effectiveness of LAIV against the A/H1N1 strain is not known.
- LAIV may be offered for children who would otherwise not receive a flu vaccine (and for whom it is appropriate by age and health status).

Rebecca Brady, MD, FAAP

From Kari:

Updated MOBI Resources: Find below the MOBI Resource Pack Resources that have been recently updated, since the start of the year. Please check your MOBI Resource Packs prior to your presentations to see if you have the latest resource edition.

Trainers have the option of printing out a copy or copies, and/or notifying their audience of the updated resources. Trainers are encouraged to explain how practices can download these resources to their practice. As always, office practices may sign up for email updates from Immunize.org which will alert subscribers to new and newly updated resources. Here is the link: <http://www.immunize.org/subscribe/>

Updated MOBI Resource Links:

1. Administering vaccines: dose, route, site and needle size (11/18)
www.immunize.org/catg.d/p3085.pdf
2. Summary of Recommendations for Child/Teen Immunization (5/18)
www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2010.pdf
3. It's Federal Law! (4/16/18) www.immunize.org/catg.d/2027.pdf
4. Guide to Contraindications and Precautions to commonly used vaccines (3/18)
www.immunize.org/catg.d/p3072a.pdf

Many trainers like to feature NEW resources at their presentations, in addition to the resources featured in MOBI and TIES.

If you find a resource that you think should be in the resource pack, let us know and it may be added in the future, following review by the MOBI/TIES Project and Advisory Team.

FREE Continuing Education Resources:

#1) CDC Webinar Series on “the Pink Book” began on June 6, 2018 and continues weekly through September 26, 2018. Register at the CDC website www.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/webinar-epv/index.html. Each week the webinar is limited to 1, 250 participants. If full, you can go to www2.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/pinkbook. * There is no webinar on July 4, 2018 due to the holiday.

#2 MMR and Medscape- There is a new free continuing ed program from MMWR and Medscape on the prevention of tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis that describes current ACIP recommendations. To access the free activity, go to www.cdc.gov/mmwr/cme/medscapecme.html. You may register for free or login without a password and get unlimited access to all continuing education activities.T

Thank You.

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