

THIS CA UPDATE HAS BEEN SENT TO THE FOLLOWING:**COUNTIES:**

- Imperial
- Riverside/San Bernardino
- Los Angeles
- Orange
- Sacramento
- San Diego

LINES OF BUSINESS:

- Molina Medi-Cal Managed Care
- Molina Medicare Options Plus
- Molina Dual Options Cal MediConnect Plan (Medicare-Medicaid Plan)
- Molina Marketplace (Covered CA)

PROVIDER TYPES:

- Medical Group/ IPA/MSO**
Primary Care

- IPA/MSO
- Directs

Specialists

- Directs
- IPA

 Hospitals**Ancillary**

- CBAS
- SNF/LTC
- DME
- Home Health
- Other

FOR QUESTIONS CALL PROVIDER SERVICES:

(888) 562-5442, Extension:

Los Angeles/Orange Counties

X123017

Riverside/San Bernardino Counties

X120613

Sacramento County

X121599

San Diego County

X121735

Imperial County

X125682

Routine Childhood Immunizations in the Time of COVID-19

This is an advisory notification to Molina Healthcare of California (MHC) network providers regarding routine childhood immunizations in the time of COVID-19.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect communities across the United States. Maintaining childhood immunizations during this period may not be feasible due to current impact of COVID-19 community transmission, staffing, and parental concerns. However, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and MHC have issued the following recommendations for prioritizing childhood immunizations during this pandemic period, and strategies which can be implemented across pediatric practices to slow the spread of disease.

PRIORITIZING IMMUNIZATIONS OF YOUNG CHILDREN:

Because of personal, practice, or community circumstances related to COVID-19, some providers may not be able to provide well child visits, including provision of immunizations, for all patients in their practice.

- If a practice can provide only limited well child visits, healthcare providers are encouraged to *prioritize newborn care and vaccination of infants and young children (through 24 months of age) when possible.*
- Reschedule well visits for those in middle childhood and adolescence to a later date. Keep a list of rescheduled appointments to facilitate patient recall later on.

STRATEGIES TO MODIFY CLINIC STRUCTURE FOR ENSURING DELIVERY OF PRIORITIZED CARE:

Ensuring the delivery of newborn and well-childcare, including childhood immunization, requires different strategies. The following are strategies recommended by AAP:

- Separating well visits from sick visits. Scheduling well visits in the morning and sick visits in the afternoon.
- Separating patients spatially, such as by placing patients with sick visits in different areas of the clinic.
- Clinics with multiple practice sites may consider using one office location to see all well visits (staffed by those in higher risk categories) and another location for sick visits.
- Collaborating with providers in the community to identify separate locations for holding well visits for children.
- If available, pediatricians are encouraged to increase their capacity to deliver telehealth and utilize "drive through" dedicated COVID-19 testing sites.

CDC and AAP GUIDANCE:

- CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/healthcare-facilities/index.html>
- AAP: <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/covid-19-clinical-guidance-q-a/>

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions regarding the notification, please contact your Molina Provider Services Representative at (888) 562-5442. Please refer to the extensions to the left.