Resources on Avoiding and Reporting Vaccination Errors

To properly screen patients for contraindications and precautions to vaccination
IAC's Screening Checklists web page**:** www.immunize.org/handouts/screening-vaccines.asp
CDC's Vaccine Contraindications and Precautions web page: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/general-recs/contraindications.html

To properly store and handle vaccines
CDC's Vaccine Storage and Handling web page: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/admin/storage/index.html
CDC's *Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit*:
www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/admin/storage/toolkit/storage-handling-toolkit.pdf
IAC's Vaccine Storage and Handling web page: www.immunize.org/handouts/vaccine-storage-handling.asp

To properly schedule vaccines
ACIP recommended immunization schedules: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/index.html
CDC's *Recommended and Minimum Ages and Intervals Between Doses of Routinely Recommended Vaccines* chart: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/downloads/appendices/A/age-interval-table.pdf
CDC's job aids for catch-up for PCV, Hib, DtaP, and Tdap vaccines:
https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/imz/catchup.html (scroll to "Vaccine Catch-Up Guidance")
IAC's Scheduling Vaccines web page: www.immunize.org/clinic/scheduling-vaccines.asp
IAC's *Summary of Recommendations for Child/Teen Immunization*: www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2010.pdf
IAC's *Summary of Recommendations for Adult Immunization*: www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2011.pdf
California Dept. of Public Health's *Pneumococcal Vaccine Timing*: http://eziz.org/assets/docs/IMM-1152.pdf

To properly administer vaccines
CDC's Vaccine Administration web section, including link to e-Learn opportunity:
www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/admin/admin-protocols.html
IAC's Administrating Vaccines web page: www.immunize.org/handouts/administering-vaccines.asp
"Vaccine Administration" chapter from CDC's *Pink Book*: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/vac-admin.html
Immunization Techniques: Safe, Effective, Caring video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=WsZ6NEijlfI&t=87s

To report errors
The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) has a website to report vaccine errors—the Vaccine Error Reporting Program (VERP). VERP was created to allow healthcare professionals and patients to report vaccine errors confidentially. By collecting and quantifying information about these errors, ISMP will be better able to advocate for changes in vaccine names, labeling, or other appropriate modifications that could reduce the likelihood of vaccine errors in the future. http://verp.ismp.org

CDC recommends that healthcare professionals also report vaccine errors to the Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS). If an adverse event occurs following a vaccine administration error, a report should definitely be sent to VAERS. Adverse events should be reported to VAERS regardless of whether a healthcare professional thinks its related to the vaccine or not, as long as it follows administering a dose of vaccine. https://vaers.hhs.gov/index

General Resources

IAC's *Don't Be Guilty of These* **Preventable** *Errors in Vaccine Administration!*
http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p3033.pdf

IAC's *Don't Be Guilty of These* **Preventable** *Errors in Vaccine Storage and Handling!*

http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p3036.pdf

Resources to Help Healthcare Providers Prevent Vaccination Errors (slide set; PDF format)
http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/s8022.pdf

To Err is Human; Not to Err Is Better! (slide set; PDF format)
http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/s8020.pdf

The Importance of Minimum Ages and Intervals in the Vaccine Schedule (slide set; PDF format)
http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/s8025.pdf

Order any of these slide sets in PowerPoint format from www.immunize.org/resources/res_powerpoint.asp.

ISMP's *Recommendations For Practitioners To Prevent Vaccine Errors*
www.ismp.org/newsletters/acutecare/showarticle.aspx?id=104

Questions?

Email CDC's experts: nipinfo@cdc.gov
Contact your vaccine representative or call the manufacturer.
Call your state immunization program manager. Contact information: www.immunize.org/coordinators
Email IAC: admin@immunize.org

Selected background information

Notes from the Field: Vaccine Administration Errors Involving Recombinant Zoster Vaccine—United States, 2017–2018 Published May 25, 2018. www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/wr/pdfs/mm6720a4-H.pdf

DTaP, LAIV, MCV4, PPSV23, HZV, 9vHPV… Alphabet soup vaccine abbreviations and acronyms lead to errors
Published February 23, 2017.
www.ismp.org/sites/default/files/attachments/2018-03/20170223.pdf

ISMP National Vaccine Errors Reporting Program: One in Three Vaccine Errors Associated With Age-Related Factors Published July 28, 2016. www.ismp.org/newsletters/acutecare/showarticle.aspx?id=1144

Notes from the Field: Administration Error Involving a Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine — United States, March 1, 2010–September 22, 2015 Published February 19, 2016.
www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6506a4.htm

Vaccination errors reported to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System, (VAERS) United States, 2000-2013
Published June 22, 2015. Abstract: www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25980429

Notes from the Field: Injection Safety and Vaccine Administration Errors at an Employee Influenza Vaccination Clinic— New Jersey, 2015 Published December 18, 2015.
www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6449a3.htm

Confusion Abounds! 2-Year Summary of The ISMP National Vaccine Errors Reporting Program
Published December 4, 2015. www.ismp.org/newsletters/acutecare/showarticle.aspx?id=95

Administering Just The Diluent Or One Of Two Vaccine Components Leaves Patients Unprotected Published May 22, 2014. www.ismp.org/newsletters/acutecare/showarticle.aspx?id=80