

Early Childhood Education Linkage System (Healthy Child Care Pennsylvania)
PA Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
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October 2013

To: Pennsylvania Early Learning Practitioners

From: Susan S. Aronson MD, FAAP
Pediatric Advisor

Libby Ungvary, M.Ed.
ECELS Director

Re: Self-Learning Module Online - Immunization Self-Learning Module

Dear Early Learning Practitioner:

Thank you for your interest in the ECELS Immunization Self-Learning Module. The instructions and the materials to complete this module are entirely on-line.

After you view them, we encourage you to show parents the videos on the website of the Vaccine Education Center of The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia about why individual vaccines are necessary. The videos will help parents understand why their children should receive all the recommended vaccines. We also encourage you to request a free supply of the Pennsylvania Immunization Card (a wallet card) to give to families and staff to record vaccines they and their children have received. On the ECELS website, select "Available Materials to Order" and follow the instructions to request the Pennsylvania Immunization Cards in packs of 50.

To receive two hours of Professional Development credit in the PA Keys to Professional Development system, follow these instructions:

1. Go to the website of the Vaccine Education Center of The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia at www.vaccine.chop.edu. Explore the information you will find there.
 - a. On the home page, follow the instructions to watch the 27 minute video on the website called "Vaccines: Separating Facts from Fear."
 - b. On the home page, select "A Look at Each Vaccine" and read about the vaccines on the vaccine schedule for children and the ones recommended for child care workers.
2. Go to the website of the National Immunization Program of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/. We recommend that you bookmark this website as one of your favorites so you can use it whenever you have a question about vaccines or whether a child is up-to-date with the currently recommended schedule.
 - a. Look at the information on the CDC website to see what might interest you now, and what is available when you have questions about vaccines. Notice that many of the materials are available in Spanish. The information sheets about individual vaccines are available in many languages. This website is the primary information source for vaccines recommended for children and adults.
 - b. Select "Immunization Schedules" – and then find the schedules for the age of the children in your program and for the adults who work in your program.

- c. Evaluate the Child Health Assessment forms/vaccine records for at least 5 children in your program
 - i. Make a copy of the Child Health Assessment forms for at least 5 children whose records you plan to evaluate to complete this module. (If the vaccine records were submitted separately from the form, be sure to copy and attach the vaccine record to the copy of the Child Health Assessment form.) Please use a dark marker or white-out to obscure the last name of the child to protect the child's privacy when you send the copied documents with your evaluation to ECELS for review.
 - ii. To evaluate the immunization status from the Child Health Assessment forms, you can either use the schedules and vaccine checking tools on the CDC website or the ECELS tool called WellCareTracker™ which will allow you to easily check the records for all of the enrolled children.
 - 1) WellCareTracker™ provides individual reports on which preventive care services are up-to-date, overdue, due now or will be due in 3 months, for all currently recommended vaccines and screening tests. You must be a subscriber to use this tool. Users of WellCareTracker™ are eligible to receive training credit for using the tool. Centers can subscribe at www.wellcaretracker.org. If you are using the ECELS tool, you can just print out the status report for 5 children whose names you pick at random and submit the reports attached to the Child Health Assessment forms you copied as the record evaluation required for this self-learning module. WellCareTracker™ is easier than doing the comparison using the CDC website-generated vaccination schedule and also checks for other preventive care services other than vaccines. It also produces the annual report of vaccines required by the PA Department of Health for all the enrolled children, saving lots of time for staff when this report is due.
 - 2) To use the CDC website, go to www.cdc.gov/vaccines click on the item called "Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule." To evaluate a child's immunization record, you will need to compare the list of vaccines the child should have received and the age when these should have been given with what your record shows the child received. Make a note on the privacy-protected copy of the child's Child Health Assessment form about whether your review found that the child's record shows that the child is up-to-date for age, or which vaccines the child is missing. Repeat this procedure for each child's record you evaluate.
 - iii. Scan and attach the scans to an e-mail or fax the copies of the Child Health Assessment forms you have evaluated with your evaluation note on each form to ECELS to confirm you understand how to perform this task.
 - iv. Be sure to ask the parents of any children who are missing some of their vaccines to go to their child's health provider either to get the dates when vaccines were given that are missing from your records, or to get any needed catch-up doses of vaccine. Sometimes, children who start getting vaccines late need fewer doses to be protected. These details are on the CDC website, but you may need to have the child's health provider explain when late immunization with fewer doses is sufficient.
3. Plan with staff members at your facility how to share vaccine information with families in your program. In the materials you will return to ECELS, you will describe your plans.
4. Print out and answer the questions on the "ECELS Self-Assessment for the Immunization Self-Learning Module" that follow this memo.
5. Follow the instructions on the Self-Learning Module page in the box "Important Reminders" and then and follow the instructions when you click the words "Click here to order SLM reviews." Each staff member requesting credit for completion of this module should return the following items that the staff person did individually -- to be checked for satisfactory completion of the Immunization Self-Learning Module:

- The privacy-protected copies of (at least 5) Child Health Assessment forms that you have individually evaluated on which you have added your notes about the results of your evaluation of the vaccines recorded on the form
- Your answers to the questions on the “ECELS Self-Assessment for the Immunization Self-Learning Module”
- Your completed Registration Form for ECELS Self-Learning Modules.

Send these items to:

**ECELS/Healthy Child Care PA
Rose Tree Corporate Center II
1400 N. Providence Road, Suite 3007, Media, PA 19063**

FAX: 484/446-3255

If you have any incomplete or incorrect information, an ECELS staff member will call you to help you complete the module satisfactorily. When satisfactory completion is accomplished, ECELS will register two hours of credit for you in the PA Keys to Professional Development system.

ECELS Self-Assessment for the Immunization Self-Learning Module

Name of Person Completing this Self-Learning Module _____

Address _____

Facility Name _____ Facility Phone Number _____

Directions: **Circle the one best answer** for each question where choices are offered. Fill in the answers to the other questions. Use additional sheets of paper if you need more room for the open-ended questions.

1. The best source of information about vaccine safety is magazines and websites for parents where parents tell what happened to their children after vaccination.
 - a. True
 - b. False

2. Bad reactions to vaccines sometimes happen, but serious effects of the diseases they prevent happen more often than the bad reactions to the vaccines.
 - a. True
 - b. False

3. Children in out-of-home child care settings are more likely than those who receive care only in their own homes to get vaccine-preventable infections.
 - a. True
 - b. False

4. Studies on various vaccines show that
 - a. MMR vaccine causes autism
 - b. Hepatitis B vaccine causes multiple sclerosis
 - c. Most side effects of vaccines are mild
 - d. Hepatitis B vaccine causes SIDS

5. Vaccines are necessary to prevent infections that could easily come back because the germs that cause these infections have not been eliminated.
 - a. True
 - b. False

6. It is better to allow children to catch childhood illnesses than to be vaccinated since immunity from vaccines is not as strong as immunity from natural infection.
 - a. True
 - b. False

7. Each January, an updated immunization schedule is published jointly by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP). Copies of the new schedule are available from:
 - a. www.aap.org
 - b. www.cdc.gov/vaccines
 - c. either of these websites

8. Describe how your facility handles the following tasks:
 - a. How does your facility check the vaccine records of enrolled children to be sure every child is up-to-date at enrollment?

 - b. How does your facility check vaccine records throughout the period that the child remains in the program to be sure the child remains up-to-date as required by the regulations of the PA Department of Welfare and the PA Department of Health? By How do you know when a child becomes due for a vaccine?

 - c. Does your facility subscribe to WellCareTracker™ -- an Internet-based software application that ECELS developed to help child care providers easily evaluate child health assessment records? Subscribers can see if children are up-to-date for all their preventive care services.

Yes

No

If you do not use WellCareTracker™ now, with the person in your program who is responsible for deciding about using software for administrative tasks, go to www.wellcaretracker.org to use the demonstration and see how easy it is to use. Users of WellCareTracker™ can earn professional development credit also. Describe your reactions to the demonstration you viewed on the WellCareTracker™ website.

9. What is your facility's policy regarding the 60 days allowed by the state after enrollment to get children up-to-date with preventive care? Do you allow children who have not had the nationally recommended vaccines and screening services according to the ACIP/AAP/AAFP schedule to start attending your program?

10. What does your facility do about children who do not get vaccines for which they become due while they are enrolled?

11. What will you and your program share from the content you found on the websites of the Vaccine Education Center of The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and the National Immunization Program of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention? How will you share this information?

12. What will your facility do differently about checking vaccines as a result of completing this SLM Online – Immunization Self-Learning Module?

Reminder: For each person seeking state-authorized training credit, return to ECELS by attachments to an e-mail, by fax or by regular surface mail the following items to be checked for satisfactory completion of the Immunization Self-Learning Module:

- The privacy-protected copies of (at least 5) Child Health Assessment forms on which you evaluated the vaccine records.
- Your answers to the questions on the “ECELS Self-Assessment for the Immunization Self-Learning Module”
- Your completed Registration Form for ECELS Self-Learning Modules.

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