



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, DC

APR 22 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR ALMAJCOM/A1S

FROM: HQ USAF/A1S
201 12th Street South Ste 413
Arlington, VA 22202-4306

SUBJECT: 2008 Recommended Immunization Schedules

In light of recent changes to the Recommended Immunization Schedules issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), our office is issuing this updated guidance for dissemination to all Child Development Centers, Family Child Care and School Age Programs. Per AFJI 48-110: "As a condition of employment or attendance at these facilities, schoolteachers, childcare center workers, volunteers, and children attending DOD-sponsored primary and secondary schools, childcare centers, or similar facilities are administered appropriate vaccines against communicable diseases unless already immune (based on documented receipt of vaccine series or physician-diagnosed illness) or medically/administratively exempt." Administrative exemptions are rarely, if ever, granted.

For immunization requirements, the Air Force follows the CDC recommendations, which are endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). Therefore, all CDC recommendations should be instituted as AF-wide requirements and should not be dependent on local policy. The 2008 CDC recommendations are listed on the attachment. Per AFMOA/SG3 standard policy, new vaccine recommendations, once published by the CDC in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, are approved for use as AF policy. Any deviations to CDC recommendations are published as AFMOA/SG3 policy memorandums or in memorandums from this office when coordinated with AF/SG3.


Currently, there are three exceptions/additions to requirements for admission into Air Force child care programs:

1. Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination is highly recommended for everyone in the indicated age range, but is not required.
2. Additional requirement of annual vaccination for influenza for children 6 months of age through adulthood (using appropriate vaccine and dosages). This extends the current CDC recommendations of annual influenza vaccination for children 6 - 59 months old.
3. Additional requirement of Hepatitis A vaccination using CDC catch-up guidelines for those children over the age of two years who were not previously vaccinated.

Additionally, there are two recent updates to the attached 2008 CDC Immunization Schedules:

1. In October 2007, on the basis of a review by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) Pneumococcal Vaccines Work Group, CDC approved the following revised recommendation for use of PCV7 (Prevnar) in children aged 24-59 months:
 - For all healthy children aged 24-59 months who have not completed any recommended schedule for PCV7, administer 1 dose of PCV7.
 - For all children with underlying medical conditions aged 24-59 months who have received 3 doses, administer 1 dose of PCV7.
 - For all children with underlying medical conditions aged 24-59 months who have received <3 doses, administer 2 doses of PCV7 at least 8 weeks apart.
2. Due to the likelihood of a shortage of Merck-produced Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) vaccine, the CDC, AAP and ACIP are recommending deferral of the booster dose of Hib at 12-15 months in order to preserve sufficient supply to complete the primary vaccination series for younger infants. Higher risk infants should continue to get the booster (children with sickle-cell disease, asplenia, agammaglobulinemia, Hodgkin disease, malignant neoplasms, complement deficiencies). There are also more detailed recommendations for children of American Indian and Alaska Native populations. The full notice is available here:
<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm56d1219a1.htm>

Thank you for your continued support of this and all Air Force Family Member Programs policies. This memorandum has been coordinated with AFMOA/SG3. For further information, please contact Ms. Eliza Nesmith, DSN 332-0817.


ARTHUR J. MYERS
Director of Services
DCS/Manpower, Personnel and Services

Attachment:
2008 CDC Recommended Immunization Schedules (3)

cc: ALMAJCOM/A1