

Basel Khatib, MD, is Michigan's 2014 CDC Childhood Immunization Champion

Congratulations to Basel Khatib, MD, of Dearborn, Michigan's 2014 CDC Childhood Immunization Champion!

During his residency Dr. Khatib read an article about the history of polio and that article transformed his career. The accomplishments of the scientists and health professionals who made the U.S. polio-free impressed him deeply. He realized that, although not all health professionals have a chance to create a new vaccine, they all can promote the use of vaccines. Since then, Dr. Khatib has made protecting children through immunization a central mission of his career as a pediatrician.

Dr. Khatib strongly promotes immunization in his pediatric practice. Two of his staff members' primary responsibility is to focus on immunization activities. He was the first pediatrician in Dearborn to invite families for meetings at his office to educate them about vaccines. He writes articles about immunization for local newspapers, appears on television shows, collaborates with community centers, works to remove financial barriers to immunization, and offers free immunizations to families who cannot afford to pay. He gives lectures on the importance of vaccines, and he allows young physicians to rotate through his office to learn more about vaccines.

(Continued on page 2)



MDCH's Division of Immunization wishes to thank Dr. Khatib and his dedicated staff for protecting their patients from vaccine preventable diseases through immunization.

May is Hepatitis Awareness Month

May is [Hepatitis Awareness Month](#) and CDC and MDCH are encouraging families to get informed and protect themselves from hepatitis disease.

In the United States the most common types of viral hepatitis are [hepatitis A](#), [hepatitis B](#) and [hepatitis C](#). Viral hepatitis is the leading cause of liver cancer and the most common reason for liver transplantation. Vaccination can prevent hepatitis A and hepatitis B. There is no vaccine for hepatitis C, but the spread of hepatitis C can be prevented by avoiding certain high risk behaviors. Early detection and treatment can help slow disease progression.

Hepatitis B and hepatitis C can become chronic, life-long infections which can lead to liver cancer. An estimated 4.4 million Americans are living with chronic hepatitis and may not know they are infected. Every year approximately 15,000 Americans die from liver cancer or chronic liver disease associated with viral hepatitis.

CDC's Division of Viral Hepatitis is leading a national campaign to raise awareness about hepatitis C called [Know More Hepatitis](#). The initiative aims to increase awareness about this hidden epidemic and encourages people born from 1945-1965 to get tested for hepatitis C. The division is also coordinating with community partners to promote testing among Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders through the multilingual [Know Hepatitis B](#) campaign.

May 19th has been designated as a national [Hepatitis Testing Day](#) and is an opportunity to remind health care providers and the public that it is important to be tested for viral hepatitis.

The online [Hepatitis Risk Assessment](#) allows individuals to privately answer questions to determine their risk for hepatitis infection and to receive recommendations for being tested or vaccinated. Any individuals who believe they may be at risk are strongly encouraged to visit their doctor and get tested.

U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently released the [Viral Hepatitis Action Plan](#) to strengthen the nation's response to viral hepatitis and to improve coordination of viral hepatitis activities across all sectors. The goals of this plan are to increase hepatitis B and hepatitis C awareness through education, reduce the number of new infections, eliminate mother-to child hepatitis B transmission, and reduce health disparities.

For additional hepatitis resources:

- <http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis>
- <http://www.michigan.gov/hepatitis>
- <http://www.michigan.gov/hepatitisB>
- <http://www.hbvadvocate.org>
- <http://www.hcvadvocate.org>

Michigan's 2014 CDC Childhood Immunization Champion (Continued from page 1)

The success of Dr. Khatib's efforts to promote immunization is reflected in awards he has received from the Wayne County Vaccine Providers Group and the Michigan Department of Community Health for achieving outstanding vaccination rates in his practice. In addition, Dr. Khatib's efforts have helped increase understanding of the importance of immunization among the population of Wayne County.

For his success in promoting immunization in his practice and community, Dr. Khatib is Michigan's [CDC Childhood Immunization Champion](#).

Get Your 2014 AIM Provider Toolkit!

The Alliance for Immunization in Michigan (AIM) Provider Tool Kit is updated annually to help providers stay knowledgeable about important changes that affect immunization practice. The 2014 AIM Kits are now available, free of charge, at www.healthymichigan.com > Immunizations.



In recent years the look and feel of the printed kit has changed and pieces included are much more colorful and promotional in nature. AIM moved forward with this change in response to feedback from regular kit users, many of whom said they didn't have the funds in their offices or worksites to print colored materials. Additionally, in past years, many materials became outdated during the year. The changes in the printed AIM Kit are designed to ensure that the information is more current and accurate. All of the same great pieces that have been found in previous versions of the kit can now be found at: www.aimtoolkit.org.

The 2014 kits were made possible through the generous donations of about a dozen Michigan-based health care organizations, and we wish to thank these benefactors. To find out how your organization can become a sponsor of next year's AIM Tool Kit please contact Caryl Markzon at CMarkzon@msms.org.

Documentary Film on Vaccines Launched May 1

Invisible Threat fosters understanding of the science of vaccinations and the misperceptions leading parents to delay or decline life-saving immunizations for their children. This outstanding 40-minute documentary was produced by award-winning high school student filmmakers and has earned praise from more than 50 organizations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, and the Mayo Clinic.

[A preview of Invisible Threat is posted online.](#)

MDCH Immunization Press Release

As part of National Infant Immunization Week (April 26-May 3), MDCH issued a press release titled [Health Officials Urge On-Time Vaccinations](#).

National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) focuses attention on the role immunization plays in protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases. Educational materials are posted on CDC's [NIIW website](#). Many of the materials can be used year-round.

Measles Update and Benefits from Immunization during the VFC Program Era

On April 24 CDC released a report on the benefits of immunization and measles vaccine. The MMWR on the "[Benefits from Immunization during the Vaccines for Children Program Era—United States, 1994–2013](#)" details the contribution by the VFC program to high immunization rates. Sustaining high vaccination coverage rates is crucial to protecting children from vaccine-preventable diseases that are still common in other parts of the world. The Vaccines for Children program has been highly effective in improving the health of U.S. children.

For children born in the VFC era (1994–2013) vaccination will prevent an estimated:

- 323 million illnesses
- 22 million hospitalizations
- 732,000 deaths over the course of their lifetimes
- A net savings of \$295 billion in direct costs and \$1.38 trillion in total societal costs

Although the VFC program is one of our most successful public-private partnerships for improving public health, the 20th anniversary of the program's implementation is occurring during an increase in measles cases. As of April 25, 2014, there have been 154 people in the U.S. reported to have measles in 14 outbreaks. These recent measles outbreaks underscore the importance of sustaining high vaccination coverage.

Although Michigan has not had any cases of measles reported this year, it is important for health care providers to be familiar with the disease, its prevention, and control. Early recognition and appropriate response are keys to limiting the spread of measles. The MDCH handout [Key Facts about Measles](#) is a useful resource for health care providers and the MMR vaccine recommendations are included. We would like to remind providers that anyone 6 months of age and older should receive a dose of MMR vaccine, if needed, prior to any international travel.

For more information:

- [Notes from the Field: Measles - California, January 1-April 18, 2014](#)
- [Report shows 20-year US immunization program spares millions of children from diseases](#)
- [VFC Infographic](#)
- [Measles outbreak information](#)

Binational Immunization Schedule Updated for 2014

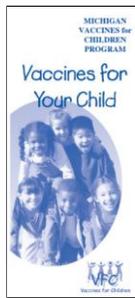
The [updated Binational Immunization Resource](#) provides an easy-to-read, side-by-side comparison of recommended vaccines in Mexico and the United States. It is now a 2-sided, 14" x 8.5" sheet and includes information and translations of parts of the updated National Health Cards from Mexico.

Michigan's Immunization Timely Tips (MITT)

To subscribe, send an email to cmarkzon@msms.org and enter the word SUBSCRIBE in the subject line. Subscribers will receive the Michigan Immunization Timely Tips (MITT) newsletter, as well as other periodic immunization news. The current and past issues of MITT are posted at www.michigan.gov/immunize, under the Provider Information section. Questions? Contact Rosemary Franklin at franklin@michigan.gov.

Vaccines for your Child Brochure Updated

Based on feedback from the MDCH Field Reps, we are going to start letting you know when materials at the MDCH Clearinghouse are updated. We have just updated the Vaccines for Your Child brochure, so I'd like to give you a status report on all our brochures.



MDCH Immunization Brochures

- *Recently updated - Vaccines for Your Child* (rev 3/14, summary of changes is below)
- HPV Vaccination (2013)
- Protect Babies and Toddlers from Serious Diseases (rev 6/12); will be updated in the next 2-3 months
- Hepatitis B: What Parents Need to Know (rev 1/13) ; will be updated in the next 2-3 months
- Protect Pre-Teens and Teens from Serious Diseases (rev 1/14)
- Adult Immunizations: Are you protected? (rev 1/14)
- The Dangers of Hepatitis B (rev 1/14)
- Viral Hepatitis, What you need to know (rev 1/14)

The Vaccines for Your Child brochure, which explains the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program, was updated in March. The photos were changed to better reflect the diversity of Michigan residents. The most important change in content is an added section on the importance of getting teens updated on their immunizations before graduation. The new brochures have been printed and they are at the MDCH clearinghouse. Given the fact that we have a new section focused on teens, I think it's a good idea to get rid of any old brochures and restock with the revised brochure.

In general, when brochures are updated it is a good idea to order the new versions and recycle any of the older versions.

Four of the above brochures were updated in January. An article discussing the changes that were made in those brochures was included on page 6 of the [Feb/March issue of the Michigan Immunization Timely Tips \(MITT\)](#) newsletter.

All of these brochures can be ordered online at www.healthymichigan.com > Enter Site > Immunizations.

CDC Releases New Storage & Handling Video

[Keys to Storing and Handling Your Vaccine Supply](#) is a new training video on vaccine management. This CDC program highlights storage and handling recommendations and best practices to help protect your patients. Vaccines are among the most powerful tools we have to protect your patients and the public's health. Proper storage and handling help ensure vaccine potency and safety. Vaccines are fragile, and storage and handling errors are costly. Reduced vaccine potency may leave patients unprotected from diseases such as pertussis, measles, and HPV.

This video has just been posted. CDC has not added this to their course list for continuing education yet, but they are expected to do so in the near future. The video is 45 minutes in length.

Thanks for protecting your communities from vaccine preventable diseases.

Michigan Care Improvement Registry's High-Risk Flag and Influenza

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) currently recommends all individuals age 6 months and older receive flu vaccine annually. The recommendations indicate that certain people are at higher risk for developing influenza-related complications such as severe illness or even death. These people include children younger than 5, but especially younger than 2 years old; adults age 65 years and older; pregnant women; and people with underlying medical conditions. Flu vaccination is associated with reductions in illness, hospitalization, and death among persons at high risk.

In 2005, a feature was added to the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR) called the high-risk flag. This was done in response to low flu vaccination rates in children with persistent asthma enrolled in Medicaid. At that time, missed opportunities to vaccinate against flu seemed to play the largest role in low vaccination rates.

The high-risk flag is activated in MCIR by Medicaid claims data which identify children with medical conditions that make them a high priority for influenza vaccination. Using that data, a "pop-up" flag was developed in MCIR to alert providers that their patient is at high risk for developing complications from influenza. This reminds the provider that influenza vaccine should be administered. The high-risk flag does not indicate the health condition that puts the child at risk.

Providers can also flag children who are not in Medicaid whose medical condition puts them at high risk of complications from influenza. This is accomplished by clicking the High Risk edit link located on the General Information page and checking the [Influenza Screening Notification](#) box under [High Risk Conditions in MCIR](#). This identifies those patients that should promptly receive flu vaccination each flu season. Recall notices can be generated for children at increased risk of complications from influenza by your practice during the flu season.

Michigan's 2014 Annual Immunization Conferences

The dates and locations of the MDCH Fall Conferences are Oct. 7 (Marquette); Oct. 9 (Gaylord); Oct. 21 (Flint); Oct. 23 (Dearborn); Oct. 24 (Troy); Nov. 18 (Grand Rapids); Nov. 19 (Kalamazoo); and Nov. 21 (E. Lansing).

These conferences have been offered annually for the past 20 years and consistently receive high ratings from attendees. Their primary goal is to update health care providers on immunization issues that affect people of all ages.

While the conferences are intended for all immunizing providers representing diverse health care settings, physicians' offices may benefit the most from this immunization update and networking opportunity.

The conferences are appropriate for nurses, nurse practitioners, medical assistants, public health staff, pharmacists, physicians, physician assistants, medical and nursing students, and anyone interested in learning more about current immunization practice in Michigan.

MDCH will apply for continuing education credits and further details will be posted online (at the website below) when they become available. The registration process will begin September 5.

As more details become available, they will be posted at www.michigan.gov/immunize > Provider Information. Stay tuned!

The State of Health with Doctor Davis

Is Your Community Up-To-Date?

Matthew Davis, MD, MAPP – Chief Medical Executive, MDCH



Vaccinations against infections have been called one of the great public health achievements of the 20th century - in the U.S. and around the world. When it comes to childhood vaccination, children in the U.S. can be protected against over a dozen different diseases that can cause serious illness and even death. Better yet, when kids are protected, adults can be protected against those same diseases.

There's a problem, though: in Michigan, childhood vaccination rates are lower than in many other states. That means that, as a state population, we are not getting as many benefits from vaccination as we could for our kids and our communities.

What do I mean by benefits? One of the big challenges of public health is that prevention can sometimes be hard for the public to see. For vaccination, however, the reminders can be easily visible - and also tragic.

For example, during the influenza season that is now wrapping up in Michigan, there have been several deaths (including 2 children) from flu. There were also several patients who needed extraordinary, life-saving therapy at Michigan hospitals for their severe flu-related illnesses. For the patients who had life-threatening illness and lost their lives to flu this past season, the common theme was that they had not gotten this year's flu vaccine.

Whooping cough (also called pertussis) is also a disease that can be life-threatening (for infants) and can be prevented through timely vaccination for infants, teens, and adults. In Michigan, however, we continue to see deaths from pertussis among unvaccinated infants. Each of these deaths was potentially avoidable.

These situations occur too often in Michigan, in an era when we have so many safe, effective tools to protect the health of our children and our communities.

Within MDCH, the Division of Immunization, directed by Bob Swanson, is hard at work to address the problem of under-vaccination. They are working with partners at the local health department level, and reaching out to healthcare providers throughout the state to encourage them to be active vaccinators. MDCH is also addressing situations where insurance plans may not provide coverage for all of the recommended vaccines.

But there's more to do - and more that YOU can do, as a health care provider and immunization advocate, in YOUR communities.

I encourage you to support timely childhood vaccination in your community by following these easy steps:

1. Support vaccination in your own family. Make sure your kids are up to date on all recommended vaccines. Make sure your grandkids are up to date. By keeping kids protected, we protect our communities.
2. While you're at it, don't forget to keep yourself and other adults in your family up to date as well. Non-elderly adults are the members of our communities who are LEAST well vaccinated. Don't be part of that statistic ... get protected!
3. Support vaccination in your community. As you hear your neighbors and other community members talking about vaccination, encourage them to "Don't Wait - Vaccinate!"

By following these 3 steps together, we can help vaccination reach even greater heights — not only as a triumph of the 20th century, but as a centerpiece of public health in the 21st century.

VACCINATE BEFORE YOU GRADUATE



After you move your tassel, vaccines can be a hassle.

It's important to get your vaccines before you graduate. Here's why:

 Environments such as dorms, workplaces or classrooms, public transportation, parties, and sporting events make diseases easy to spread

The Vaccines for Children (VFC) program covers the uninsured and underinsured through 18 years of age **FREE!**

 Take advantage while you still have insurance through your parents or guardians

Not having a car on-campus can make getting to the doctors tricky (think bus or bike) 

 Whether you move away for college, trade school, or a job, see your local health care provider now, while you are still nearby

Many occupations or colleges require you to be fully vaccinated prior to entrance 

 For full protection, some vaccines require multiple doses over an extended period of time

Take the time to get up-to-date now before it becomes an inconvenience!

Do The MATH!

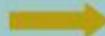
Do Your Doses Add Up to Equal Protection?

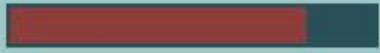
Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine (MCV)

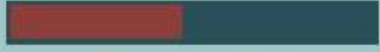
Adolescent Catch-Up Vaccines

Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap)

Human Papillomavirus (HPV)

See back side for details 

85% 
16-18 year-olds in Michigan who are NOT up-to-date with all their needed vaccines (MCIR data, Feb 2014)

46% 
women who contract HPV through skin-to-skin contact before ever having vaginal sex (J Infect Dis, Mar 2013)

20% 
survivors of meningococcal disease who have permanent complications, such as hearing loss, brain damage, or loss of a limb (CDC Pink Book, May 2012)

* VFC also covers American Indian/Alaska Native and adolescents with Medicaid. Visit www.michigan.gov/vfc or talk to your health care provider.

This poster and many others are available online:

<http://www.michigan.gov/teenvaccines>; Click on [Adolescent Immunization Poster Gallery](#)