

MIHP Biweekly Update

March 11, 2024



Maternal Infant Health Program

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Reminder! March COP Webinar

The March Community of Practice webinar will be held on Wednesday, March 13th from 1:00PM - 2:30PM. The topic is “Community Health Workers in Michigan,” presented by the team at the Michigan Community Health Worker Association (MiCHWA). If you haven’t registered yet, click on the link below.

[Community Health Workers in Michigan webinar registration](#)

Answers to Immunizations COP

MDHHS-MIHP would like to acknowledge that there were a few questions that were unable to be answered during the February 14th Community of Practice webinar. Please see the correspondence below for clarification.

Question asked:

Why is the RSV “season” shorter than the flu season? And, reminder on when flu season ends?

Answer from Division of Immunization Nurse Educators and CDC content:

- RSV “season” is based on CDC’s observations of how RSV peaks and wanes throughout the year.
 - Prior to 2020, seasonal patterns for RSV in the United States were very consistent. However, the patterns of circulation for RSV and other common respiratory viruses have been disrupted since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is too soon to predict when the previous seasonal patterns will return.
- The timing of administering RSV immunization products and influenza vaccines is based on their epidemiology.
 - More information on the epidemiology of both diseases including their seasonality can be found at [RSV Surveillance and Research | CDC](#) and [Flu Season | CDC](#).
 - Additional information on the rationale for the timing of RSV immunization to protect older adults and infants can be found in the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations available at [RSV ACIP Vaccine Recommendations | CDC](#).
 - For flu immunization timing, flu immunizations may be administered throughout the year, extending from July 1 through June 30 of the following year.
 - For RSV immunization timing, it depends on the product:
 - For monoclonal antibodies (Nirsevimab/Beyfortus) given to infants < 8 months, the timing is October through end of March.
 - For vaccines given to pregnant persons (Abrysvo) during weeks 32 through 36, the recommended timing is September through end of January.

Home Visiting Applied Research Collaborative

From our partners at the Home Visiting Applied Research Collaborative (HARC):

MIHP has joined HARC as a model member. HARC is a national research and development platform for innovation to broaden and strengthen home visiting's benefits for all families and communities. HARC is also a membership organization - membership is free and open to anyone with an interest in home visiting. We would like to invite all MIHP agencies and their staff to join HARC.

Why should you join HARC? HARC members receive the monthly Newsletter and can participate in webinars, our annual Collaborative Science of Home Visiting meeting, and Special Interest Groups (New!), and have opportunities take part in research advisory groups and important research studies. Joining is free and takes just 5 minutes. *We need to include and hear from more voices to ensure that home visiting research is timely, relevant, and useful to the field.*

We hope that you will join HARC and encourage all your staff to enroll as well. You can access the enrollment surveys and find out more about the [membership categories here](#). There is a list of [FAQs about membership here](#). You can find more information about HARC in general by exploring the [HARC website](#).

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to email Jane Daniels, jdaniels@jhu.edu, at the HARC Coordinating Center.



MDHHS Press Release: Healthy Eating Habits

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 7, 2024

CONTACT: Lynn Sutfin, 517-241-2112, SutfinL1@michigan.gov

**Michigan families urged to focus on healthy eating habits
Beyond the Table during National Nutrition Month**

LANSING, Mich. – In March, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program is joining with the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics to encourage Michiganders to focus on the importance of making informed food choices and developing sound eating and physical activity habits during National Nutrition Month.

“The 2024 theme, *Beyond the Table*, encourages healthy eating no matter where we get our nutrition,” said Elizabeth Hertel, MDHHS director. “Whether you’re eating at home or on the road, it’s important to consider how we get, prepare, store and eat our foods.”

[Beyond the Table](#) addresses the farm-to-fork aspect of nutrition, from food production and distribution to navigating grocery stores and farmers markets, and even home food safety and storage practices. It also describes the various ways we eat, not only around a dinner table, but also on the go, in schools and restaurants, at games and events. This theme also includes sustainability, for instance, decreasing food waste from school and work to home and beyond.

During National Nutrition Month, the Michigan WIC Program encourages everyone to eat a variety of foods from the different food groups and buy local to support Michigan’s strong agriculture and farming heritage.

WIC is a federally funded program that serves low-income women, infants and children up to age five by providing nutritious food, nutrition education, breastfeeding promotion and support, and referrals to health and other services. WIC foods are selected to meet nutrient needs such as calcium, iron, folic acid, and vitamins A and C. WIC provides families with access to registered dietitians or registered dietitian nutritionists. These food and nutrition experts specialize in assessing one’s unique needs and providing personalized nutrition education and counseling to meet individual health goals.

To learn more about WIC or find an agency near you, call 211 or visit Michigan.gov/WIC.

Free Webinar - Measles: A Discussion on Risk in the U.S. and Outbreaks in the U.K

Immunize Colorado will host a webinar on Monday, March 25 from 2:00pm – 3:00pm, titled "Measles: A Discussion on Risk in the U.S. and Outbreaks in the U.K.," with presenters Dr. Peter Hotez and Dr. Helen Bedford. We welcome you to [register](#) for this event and share details of the event with anyone else who might benefit from attending. The event details can be found in the attached flyer. For more information on this webinar and links to additional information about Immunize Colorado, [click here](#).



FDA Alert on Cinnamon Products with Elevated Levels of Lead

From our partners in the MDHHS Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP):

The U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) issued an alert concerning recalls for multiple brands of cinnamon products with elevated levels of lead. MDHHS is working collaboratively with FDA and the Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development (MDARD) to identify next steps. We will share additional information as it becomes available.

Please share this information with families as you are providing nursing case management services.

FDA's recommendations for consumers are as follows:

- The FDA is advising consumers to stop using and dispose of these products.
- Consumers should not eat, sell, or serve ground cinnamon products listed in the table and should discard them.
- These products have a long shelf life. Consumers should check their homes and discard these products.
- If there's suspicion that someone has been exposed to elevated levels of lead, talk to your healthcare provider. Most people have no obvious immediate symptoms of lead exposure.

[Read the full FDA alert here.](#)



Previously Released MIHP Updates

To review any previously released MIHP Biweekly Updates, they can be found by [visiting the MIHP webpage Michigan.gov/MIHP](http://Michigan.gov/MIHP).

Biweekly Update Topic Submission

If you have suggestions for topics to be addressed in future additions of the MIHP Biweekly Update, [please submit your ideas here](#).

MDHHS Publications

[Sign up here to receive program updates and communications.](#)

Coordinator Directory

Please click here to access the most recent Coordinator Directory. [MIHP Coordinator Directory](#)

Our communication for the Maternal Infant Health Program has been streamlined to a single email address and phone number. Please forward all emails to MIHP@michigan.gov. For further assistance, contact the state office @ **1-833-MI4-MIHP (1-833-644-6447)**. Thank you.