



Immunization Advisory Council Meeting

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Please note this meeting will be recorded.

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Opening Remarks and Introductions

Council Members

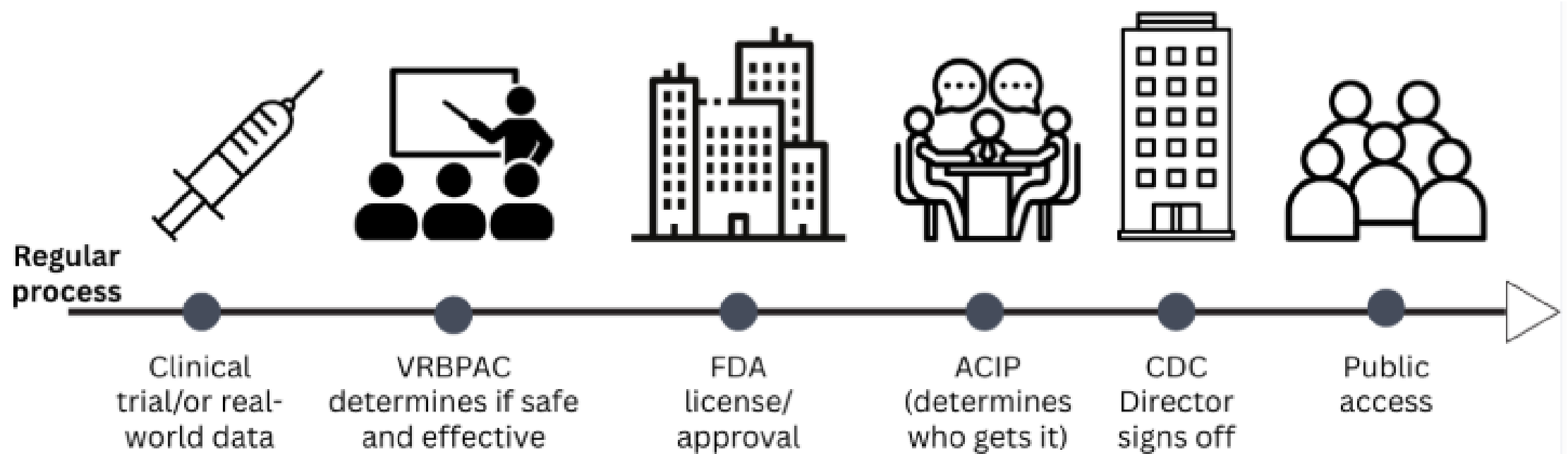
MEMBER	ROLE/AFFILIATION	TERM EXPIRES
Robert Tortoloni, MD	Board of Medical Practice	2027
Ashley Berliner	Agency of Human Services	2027
Courtney O'Brien	Agency of Education	2027
Deb Doyon, RN	Public Schools	2027
Emily Mosites, PhD	State Epidemiologist, Department of Health	2027
Merideth Plumptre, RN	Immunization Program Manager, Department of Health	2027
Ashley Miller, MD	Pediatrician	2027
Ben Lee, MD	Pediatric Infectious Disease Physician	2027
Beth Kirkpatrick, MD	Professor and Researcher	2027
Judy Fingergut, MD	Family Physician	2027
Bridget Bromirski, CPNP	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	2027
Molly Trayah, PharmD	Licensed Pharmacist	2027

Agenda

- i. Opening Remarks and Introductions
- ii. Immunization Advisory Council Background and Expectations
- iii. Review Current Respiratory Virus Vaccine Recommendations
- iv. Discussion
- v. Public Comment
- vi. Vote on Vaccine Recommendations to the Commissioner
- vii. Elect a Council Chair

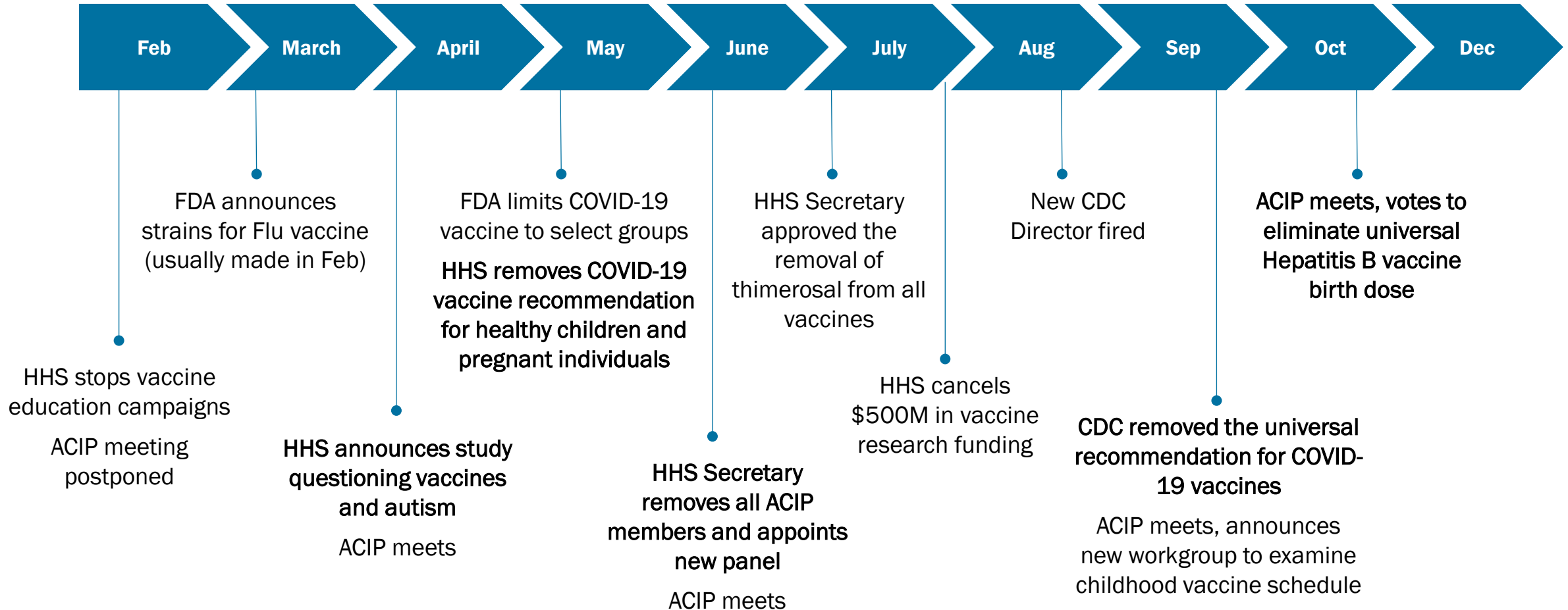
Background and Changes to the Immunization Advisory Council

Immunization Approval Process

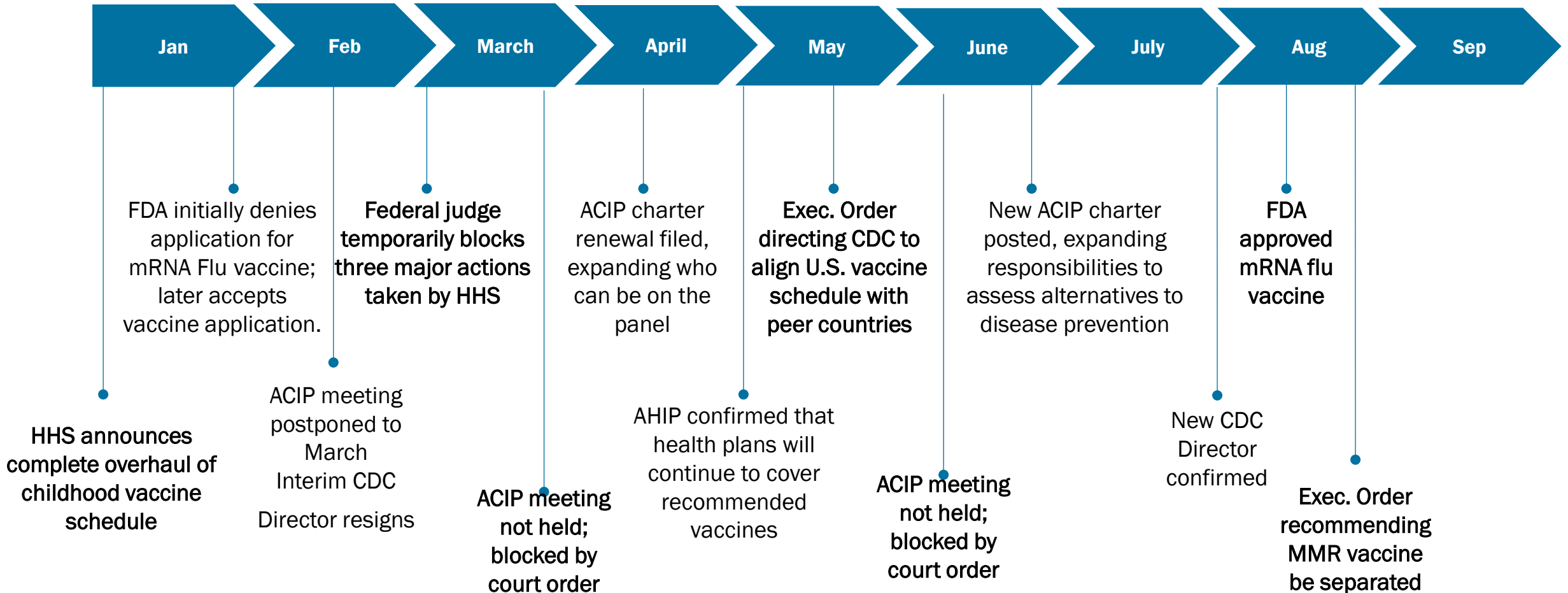


(Source: [Your Local Epidemiologist](#))

2025 Recap



2026 Recap



Responding to a Shifting Immunization Environment



Changes at the federal level have caused confusion and disruption.



Vermont is committed to preserving access to and coverage of routine preventive immunizations.



This required legislative changes.

Updated Immunization Statute

- Vermont now has flexibility to follow vaccination schedules from CDC & ACIP and/or professional medical organizations like AAP, AAFP, ACOG.
- Health Department Immunization Program will continue to purchase recommended vaccines at the lowest available cost and have flexibility to select the vendor.
- Insurers will continue to cover recommended vaccines at no cost.
- Pharmacists and pharmacy techs will be able to administer recommended vaccines.
- Commissioner of Health will be able to issue a standing order that health care professionals can rely on to administer recommended vaccines.
- Health care providers will have limited liability protection for administering recommended vaccines according to Vermont's recommended schedule.

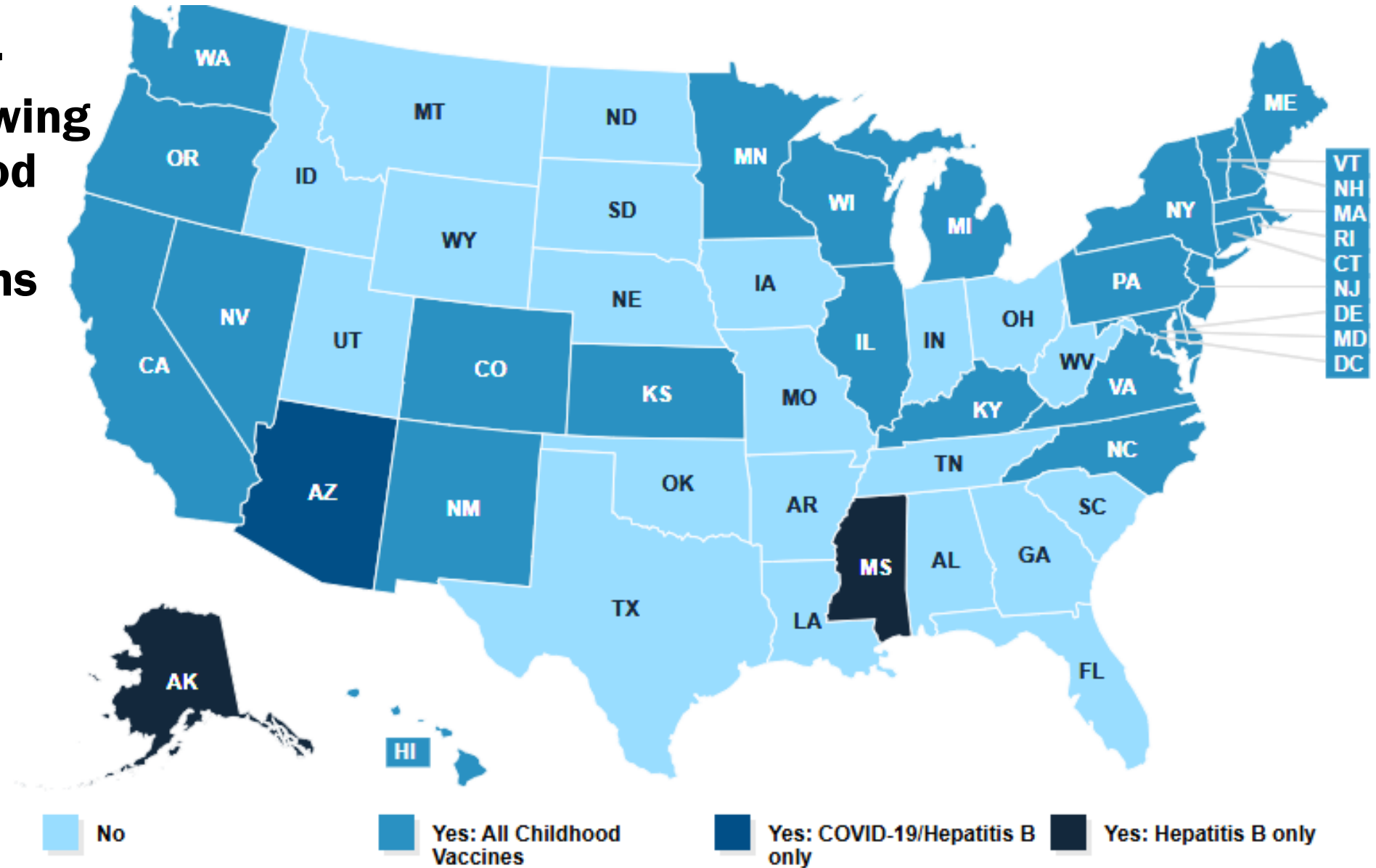
Complete language in statute: [Act 76 \(2026\)](#)

Immunization Advisory Council

Purpose: To provide education policy, medical, and epidemiological expertise and advice to the Department with regard to the safety of immunizations and immunization schedules.

Goal for today: Provide advice to the Commissioner of Health regarding his recommended immunizations and schedules

States No Longer Exclusively Following ACIP for Childhood Immunization Recommendations



(Source: [KFF State Health Facts](#))

The Commissioner intends to adopt the consolidated recommendations of professional medical organizations.

Respiratory Virus Immunizations and Recommendations

Flu Vaccines

Current flu vaccines are trivalent formulations. For the 2026-2027 season, influenza vaccines include **two influenza A viruses (H1N1 and H3N2)** and **one influenza B virus**.

Types of flu vaccine:

- Inactivated flu vaccines
 - Standard dose
 - High dose and adjuvanted are approved for 65+
- Recombinant
- Live attenuated

An mRNA flu vaccine was approved by FDA in August for adults 50+; the Health Department will not have access to this product for the 2026-2027 season.

RSV Vaccines and Monoclonal Antibodies

Types of RSV vaccines and monoclonal antibodies available:

- RSV vaccines for adults:
 - Three products, two protein-based, one mRNA
- RSV vaccine for pregnant individuals:
 - One product, protein-based
- RSV monoclonal antibodies for infants:
 - Two products

COVID-19 Vaccines

Current COVID-19 vaccines for the 2026-2027 season target the XFG strain.

Types of COVID-19 vaccines:

- mRNA (ages 6mo+ depending on product)
- Recombinant, protein-based (ages 12+)

Respiratory Virus Immunization Recommendations – CDC

So far in 2026, [ACIP meetings](#) have been canceled due to ongoing litigation. The CDC website states that the following recommendations remain in effect:

- [Interim Clinical Considerations for the Use of Seasonal Influenza Vaccines in the United States](#)
- [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines in the United States](#)
- [Clinical Guidance for RSV Immunizations and Vaccines](#)

Evidence Reviews – Professional Medical Organizations

American Medical Association(AMA partnered with the [Vaccine Integrity Project](#) (based out of U Minnesota - CIDRAP) to perform a [comprehensive review of evidence of respiratory virus immunizations for the 2026-2027 season](#).

The recommendations were made in partnership with the following:

- AAP for pediatrics
- AAFP for adults
- ACOG for pregnant individuals
- IDSA for immunocompromised individuals



Consolidated Respiratory Virus Immunization Recommendations – Professional Medical Organizations

Following this evidence review, these professional medical organizations released [consolidated respiratory virus immunization recommendations for 2026-2027](#).

Respiratory Virus Immunization Recommendations			
ALIGNED WITH EVIDENCE AND GUIDANCE FROM:			
	Influenza (flu)	Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)	COVID-19
Children and Adolescents 0-18 years	Annual flu vaccine for all children 6 months+	All infants <8 months, if no protection from RSV vaccine during pregnancy and children 8-19 months in certain risk groups	All young children ages 6-23 months and children 2-18 years in certain risk groups or if desired
Pregnancy	Annual flu vaccine (avoid nasal spray flu vaccine)	One-time RSV vaccine in first eligible pregnancy if 32-36 weeks pregnant, given between September 1 and March 1	Annual updated COVID-19 vaccine
Adults 19-64 years	Annual flu vaccine for all adults ages 19+	One-time RSV vaccine for adults ages 50-74 at increased risk of severe RSV	Annual updated COVID-19 vaccine
Older Adults 65+ years	Annual flu vaccine for all adults, enhanced flu vaccine (high dose, adjuvanted, recombinant, or mRNA) for 65+, if possible	One-time RSV vaccine recommended for adults ages 50-74 at increased risk and all adults age 75+	Annual updated COVID-19 vaccine for adults 65+, followed by a second dose 6 months later to boost protection
Immunocompromised	Annual flu vaccine for those ages ≥6 months (avoid nasal spray flu vaccine)	Single dose of RSV vaccine for those ages ≥18 years and for those ages <18 years, administration should be guided by shared decision making	Annual updated COVID-19 vaccine for those ages ≥6 months
Healthcare Personnel	Annual flu vaccine	Follow age- and risk-based RSV vaccine recommendations	Annual updated COVID-19 vaccine
Scan here to access additional helpful vaccine and immunization resources at www.spreadthefacts.org			

Pediatric Immunization Recommendations



**Children and
Adolescents
0-18 years**



Influenza (flu)

Annual flu vaccine for all
children 6 months+



Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)

All infants <8 months, if
no protection from RSV
vaccine during pregnancy
and children 8-19 months
in certain risk groups



COVID-19

All young children
ages 6-23 months and
children 2-18 years in
certain risk groups or if
desired

Based on AAP recommendations for [influenza](#), [RSV](#), and [COVID-19](#).

Pregnancy Immunization Recommendations



Influenza (flu)

Annual flu vaccine
(avoid nasal spray flu vaccine)



Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)

One-time RSV vaccine in first eligible pregnancy if 32-36 weeks pregnant, given between September 1 and March 1



COVID-19

Annual updated COVID-19 vaccine

Based on [ACOG recommendations](#).

Adult (Age 19-64) Immunization Recommendations



Influenza (flu)

Annual flu vaccine for all adults ages 19+



Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)

One-time RSV vaccine for adults ages 50-74 at increased risk of severe RSV



COVID-19

Annual updated COVID-19 vaccine

Based on [AAFP recommendations](#).

Adult (Age 65+) Immunization Recommendations



Older Adults 65+ years



Influenza (flu)

Annual flu vaccine for all adults, enhanced flu vaccine (high dose, adjuvanted, recombinant, or mRNA) for 65+, if possible



Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)

One-time RSV vaccine recommended for adults ages 50-74 at increased risk and all adults age 75+



COVID-19

Annual updated COVID-19 vaccine for adults 65+, followed by a second dose 6 months later to boost protection

Based on [AAFP Recommendations](#).

Immunocompromised Immunization Recommendations



Influenza (flu)

Annual flu vaccine for those ages ≥ 6 months (avoid nasal spray flu vaccine)



Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)

Single dose of RSV vaccine for those ages ≥ 18 years and for those ages < 18 years, administration should be guided by shared decision making



COVID-19

Annual updated COVID-19 vaccine for those ages ≥ 6 months

Based on [IDSA recommendations](#) and the [IDSA definition of immunocompromised](#).

Healthcare Personnel



Influenza (flu)

Annual flu vaccine



Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)

Follow age- and risk-
based RSV vaccine
recommendations



COVID-19

Annual updated
COVID-19 vaccine

Based on [AAFP recommendations](#).

Discussion (20 minutes)

What advice do you have for the Commissioner regarding his intention to adopt the consolidated recommendations of professional medical organizations for this respiratory season?

Public Comment (5 minutes)

Vote

Vote on Proposed 2026-2027 Recommendations

Proposed motion:

The Council supports the Commissioner's recommendation to continue following the professional medical organizations' consolidated respiratory virus immunization recommendations for 2026-2027.

Elect a Chair

Thank you!

Let's stay in touch.

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