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PRESS RELEASE FOR LOCAL MEDIA

To: Local Media Outlets
From: Central Michigan District Health Department
RE: CMDHD Promoting National Infant Immunization Week
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CMDHD is Promoting National Infant Immunization Week, starting April 22nd

Central Michigan District Health Department (CMDHD) is promoting National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW), taking place the week of April 22nd. NIIW's goal is to raise awareness about the importance of protecting children two years and younger from vaccine-preventable diseases. Vaccines are one of the most safe and effective tools available to keep children – and our community -- healthy.

“Getting vaccinated is the best way to protect ourselves and our loved ones from potential outbreaks of diseases like measles,” said Dr. Jennifer Morse, CMDHD Medical Director. “These illnesses can cause serious complications and even death. Vaccination can provide lifelong protection without these risks.”

Some children missed wellness checks and vaccinations during the pandemic. Missed vaccinations are leading to increases in diseases like chickenpox and measles. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [vaccine schedule](#) is useful for finding out if your child is missing any routine shots. Generally, by your child's second birthday, they should receive the following immunizations:

- DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis): Protects against diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (whooping cough). Given at 2, 4, 6, 15-18 months, and 4-6 years old.
- Hep A (Hepatitis A): Guards against hepatitis A, a viral liver disease. Administered in two doses: First at 12-23 months, second 6-18 months later.
- Hep B (Hepatitis B): Shields against hepatitis B virus. Given shortly after birth, then at 1-2 months, and finally at 6-18 months.
- Hib (Hemophilus influenzae type b): Protects against Hib disease, which can cause meningitis and other infections. Administered at 2, 4, 6, and 12-15 months.
- IPV (Polio): Shields against polio, a highly contagious viral illness. Administered at 2, 4, 6-18 months, and 4-6 years old.

Please visit us online at www.cmdhd.org.

- MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella): Protects against measles, mumps, and rubella. Administered at 12-15 months and 4-6 years old.
- PCV15 (Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine): Guards against pneumococcal bacteria, which can cause pneumonia, meningitis, and blood infections. Given at 2, 4, 6, and 12-15 months.
- Rotavirus: Protects against rotavirus, a common cause of severe diarrhea and dehydration in young children. Administered at 2, 4, and 6 months.
- RSV, COVID-19, and Seasonal Flu: Protection against these respiratory illnesses that can become severe in children.
- Varicella (Chickenpox): Shields against chickenpox, a highly contagious viral infection. Administered at 12-15 months and 4-6 years old.

CMDHD's Personal Health department offers routine childhood and adult immunizations at walk-in clinics and also by appointment. Visit <https://www.cmdhd.org/child-immunizations> to learn more about our childhood immunizations. A list of walk-in clinics (no appointment needed) and contact numbers for each CMDHD branch office is available at <https://www.cmdhd.org/countyimmunizations>.

Parents, caregivers, and healthcare providers must work together to promote vaccination as a safe way keep everyone in our community protected from vaccine-preventable diseases. Additional information about infant/child immunizations at www.ivaccinate.org, www.cdc.gov/vaccines, and www.vaccineinformation.org.

This article has been brought to you by Central Michigan District Health Department, which serves the counties of Arenac, Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Osceola, and Roscommon. Visit our website at www.cmdhd.org and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

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