



CORRECTIONS MEDICINE
Infection Control – Vaccination Program
ACA Standard: 4 ALDF – 4C – 14

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Policy Number:
CM – 13.3

- I. **PURPOSE:** To establish procedures for an effective immunization program, and provide guidance on vaccine handling and storage, as well as immunization history screening, administration of vaccines and management of adverse reactions during immunization.
- II. **POLICY:** Corrections Medicine shall provide guideline-driven vaccine care to patients and follow standard procedures when handling, administering, and storing vaccines. Vaccines available to patients are dependent on current resources and the availability of vaccine.
- III. **RESPONSIBILITY:** All Corrections Medicine staff are responsible for the content of this policy and procedure as well as adherence to the policy.
- IV. **ACRONYMS:**
 - **ACIP** – Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, published by The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
 - **CDC** – The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 - **DHSS** - Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
 - **DPH** – Saint Louis County Department of Public Health
 - **EMR** – Electronic Medical Record
 - **VIS** – Vaccine Information Sheet
- V. **PROCEDURE:**
 1. Determining Patient Vaccination History:
 - a. Prior to immunization, every effort shall be made to determine each patient’s immunization history, and any such information shall be documented within the patient’s EMR. When applicable, vaccination history should be reviewed in an appropriate patient registry.
 - b. Prior to the administration of the vaccine(s), the nurse must review the patient’s medical history to determine if there are contraindications to the vaccines.
 2. Informed Consent:
 - a. Corrections Medicine nursing staff providing immunization(s) shall ensure valid written informed consent is obtained from the patient prior to immunization, and the signed form shall become part of the EMR.
 - b. The nurse is responsible for counseling the patient before administering the vaccine regarding:
 - i. The purpose of the vaccine
 - ii. Contraindications to the vaccine

- iii. Risks of the vaccine
 - iv. What to do in case of adverse reactions
 - c. Counseling shall be supplemented with the appropriate VIS published by the CDC.
3. Administration of Vaccines:
- a. Vaccine recommendations shall be based on the current ACIP Schedule of Immunizations for Adults as ordered by a provider or through standing orders.
 - b. Appropriate immunizations shall be determined following evaluation for acute/chronic diseases, illnesses and other health and behavioral risk factors, and/or in accordance with DPH standing orders.
4. Commonly Provided Vaccines:
- a. Hepatitis A:
 - i. All patients who work in the facility's food service areas are required to first be immunized against Hepatitis A.
 - b. Influenza Vaccines are offered to all patients during the influenza season.
 - c. Additional recommended vaccines are offered to patients based on the availability of the vaccine.
 - i. Pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine: this series is offered to patients in accordance to ACIP indications for a set chronic disease based on vaccine availability.
 - ii. Tetanus-diphtheria (Tdap) vaccine: Tdap vaccine is offered to patients according to ACIP indications. It is offered during pregnancy, and after skin injuries to appropriate patients and to other patients based on vaccine availability.
5. Vaccine Storage and Handling:
- a. Staff shall follow manufacturer's instructions for storage, safe handling and disposal of vaccines, as well as current DPH, state and federal regulations, shall be followed.
 - b. Vaccines must be stored as recommended by the manufacturer, or required by current state and federal regulations.
 - c. Syringes, needles and vials must be disposed of in a puncture-resistant sharps container, and shall be considered as bio-hazardous materials.
6. Staff Education and Training:
- a. Corrections Medicine nursing staff providing the administration of vaccines shall have ongoing training on immunization practices, including management of potential adverse reactions conducted through just-in-time training, staff meetings, emails or other methods approved by the DPH.

- b. Immunization training may also be coordinated through other DPH divisions, or events sponsored by the local DHSS, or other health care organizations or vendors.
 - c. Resource materials from the DHSS, CDC, National Commission on Correctional Health, and other reputable health care organizations may be used for staff training purposes.
7. Documentation and Recordkeeping:
- a. Once immunizations have been administered it must be documented in the EMR.
 - b. Any serious adverse reaction to the vaccine shall be documented in the patient's EMR and the medical provider shall be notified.
 - c. Staff administering vaccines shall be trained and competent in resuscitation skills and management of anaphylaxis.
 - d. Any serious event related to vaccine administration in adults should be reported to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System.

VI. **REFERENCES:**

Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (AICP). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/index.html>. Updated March 21, 2019. Accessed 2017.

Standard 4-ALDF-4C-14; Performance-Based Standards for Adult Local Detention Facilities; 4th Edition; American Correctional Association; 2004