

Respiratory Virus Season Immunization Recommendations

Health Advisory




September 26, 2025

Situational Update

California, Oregon, Washington, and Hawaii have joined together to form the [West Coast Health Alliance](#) (WCHA) to provide unified, evidence-based vaccine recommendations informed by trusted national medical organizations. Furthermore, the recently revised [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 144](#) allows California to base vaccination recommendations on credible medical organizations.

WCHA has provided the following [immunization recommendations](#) for the upcoming 2025-2026 respiratory virus season.

Consensus WCHA 2025-2026 Respiratory Virus Season Immunization Recommendations

Age/Condition	COVID-19	Influenza	RSV
Children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All 6-23 months • All 2-18 years with risk factors or never vaccinated against COVID-19 • All who are in close contact with others with risk factors¹ • All who choose protection¹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All 6 months and older 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All younger than 8 months² • All 8-19 months with risk factors
Pregnancy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All who are planning pregnancy, pregnant, postpartum or lactating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All who are planning pregnancy, pregnant, postpartum or lactating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 32-36 weeks gestational age²
Adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All 65 years and older • All younger than 65 years with risk factors • All who are in close contact with others with risk factors • All who choose protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All 75 years and older • All 50-74 years with risk factors

1. COVID-19 vaccine is available for persons 6 months and older.

2. Protect infants with either prenatal RSV vaccine or infant dose of nirsevimab or clesrovimab.

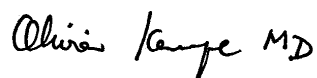
SB 144 will immediately affect the following:

- Insurance coverage: Vaccines will continue to be covered by health care insurers regulated by the Department of Managed Health Care. In most instances, vaccines for COVID-19, influenza, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) will be covered by health plans, including Medi-Cal managed care plans. However, this may not apply to Medicare Advantage plans or specialized health care services plans.
- Liability coverage: Prescribing, dispensing, ordering, furnishing, or administering vaccines recommended by CDPH is protected from liability. Liability protection will sunset in 2030 unless renewed by Legislature.
- Pharmacist vaccination: Pharmacists may administer immunizations recommended by CDPH to patients three years and older without a prescription from a physician.

Resources:

1. SB 144 Health Care Provider Letter (CDPH): <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/publichealth4all/SB144CARV-Immunization-Recommendations.aspx>
2. Department of Managed Health Care: [https://www.dmhc.ca.gov/Portals/0/Docs/OPL/APL25-015-AssemblyBill144andCoverageofPreventiveCareServices\(9 18 2025\).pdf](https://www.dmhc.ca.gov/Portals/0/Docs/OPL/APL25-015-AssemblyBill144andCoverageofPreventiveCareServices(9%2018%202025).pdf)
3. West Coast Health Alliance: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2025/09/03/california-oregon-and-washington-to-launch-new-west-coast-health-alliance-to-uphold-scientific-integrity-in-public-health-as-trump-destroys-cdcs-credibility/>
4. Assembly Bill 144: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB144#:~:text=SEC.%2026.%C2%A0Section%20120164%20is%20added%20to%20the%20Health%20and%20Safety%20Code%2C%20to%20read%3A
5. Public Health for All (CDPH): <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Pages/public-health-for-all/publichealthforall.aspx>

Sincerely,



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