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To: PCPs

From: IEHP - Quality

Date: October 15, 2025

Subject: **AB 144: Immunization Provider Liability Protections**

Effective September 17, 2025, **important provider guidance and protections related to immunizations were put into place via CA Assembly Bill 144**. The bill took effect immediately upon signing and will remain so until January 1, 2030.

Regarding immunizations, this bill:

- Establishes that the state of California will use the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended schedule as of January 1, 2025, as baseline recommendations.
- Establishes California Department of Public Health (CDPH) as the source of immunizations and preventive services guidelines and authorizes CDPH to modify or supplement baseline recommendations, considering guidance from leading medical organizations such as the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and the American Academy of Family Physicians.
- Provides liability protections for people prescribing, dispensing, ordering, furnishing, or administering immunizations in accordance with CDPH guidance or as part of a public health outreach program. Additionally, this extends liability protection for any injury caused by an act or omission in prescribing, dispensing, ordering, furnishing, or in the administration of vaccines or other immunizing agents **if required by state law or administered in accordance with guidance from CDPH** according to its baseline recommendations, until January 1, 2030.
- Allows pharmacists licensed in CA to independently initiate and administer an immunization to persons aged 3 years or older.

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) issued a stakeholder letter affirming Medi-Cal coverage for vaccines and immunizations in accordance with AB 144, including for the COVID-19 vaccination for all persons aged 6 months and older.

CDPH has published the 2025-26 Respiratory Vaccine Recommendations, which is available at <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/publichealth4all/SB144CARV-Immunization-Recommendations.aspx>

The full bill can be accessed on-line <https://legiscan.com/CA/text/AB144/id/3270007>

If you have any questions, please contact the IEHP Provider Call Center at (909) 890-2054, (866) 223-4347 or email ProviderServices@iehp.org

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