



PAIC Weekly Update 12/28

*Note: Due to vacation schedules, there will be no weekly update on January 4th. Our next update will be sent on January 11th.
Happy Holidays!

PAIC Upcoming Events and Resources

- **Central PA Immunization Coalition is looking for a new chairperson!** If you are interested, please reach out to Chelise at cjunior@paaap.org or Deb daerdman@geisinger.edu.
- **Now Hiring!** On behalf of the Allegheny County Immunization Coalition, PA-AAP and the Pennsylvania Immunization Coalition are excited to announce that we are hiring ONE full-time Coalition Coordinator in order to expand our immunization access and outreach efforts in Pennsylvania. Please see the job duties below and share with your networks.
 - [Immunization Coalition Coordinator - Allegheny Immunization Coalition](#)

Partner Updates:

- On January 17, 2023, the PDPH Immunization Program website URL will be changing from vax.phila.gov to vaccines.phila.gov. Your bookmarked pages will need to be updated once the new URL goes live on January 17.

Webinars and Upcoming Events:

- **CoVAC is offering an exciting line-up of FREE professional education to begin in January.** Register for each series as a package so you don't miss any. If you can't attend the live sessions, an archived version will be available to view.
 - **Facts or Fakes? Promoting Health Literacy Skills with Your Students -** Rapidly evolving evidence and changing guidance, as well as rampant and politicized misinformation and disinformation during the COVID-19 pandemic pose challenges for health literacy, including mental health literacy. It is unknown how many students are familiar with these concepts nor how many campus personnel, including college health

professionals and mental health providers, are familiar with current techniques and strategies for teaching students about digital health literacy. [See more information here!](#)

Toolkits, factsheets, and resources

- **Immunize.org’s new webinar, “Improving the Vaccination Experience: Accessible Vaccination for Neurodiverse People at Any Age,” now available for on-demand viewing** - In this webinar, participants learned more about the [Autism Society’s practical tips](#) to improve vaccine confidence by employing strategies to reduce stress when vaccinating neurodiverse patients. People with autism and other developmental disabilities have [lower childhood vaccination rates](#) than their peers without autism, leaving them vulnerable to many vaccine-preventable diseases. Effective strategies exist to reduce pain and anxiety during the vaccination visit. The video of the webinar is now [available at our website for on-demand viewing](#).
- **December 12 marked second anniversary of COVID-19 vaccination program; new book tells the story of the public health and clinical heroes who made it happen** - A new book released by the American Public Health Association Press tells the story of the public health and clinical heroes who made this vaccination program happen. [Vaccinating America: The Inside Story Behind the Race to Save Lives, and End a Pandemic](#), by Michael Fraser and Brent Ewig, spotlights the local, state, and federal public servants who planned and executed this unprecedented program to combat COVID-19 amidst overwhelming logistical and bureaucratic challenges.
- **Influenza activity remains high; lower vaccination rates among pregnant people require action** - Roll up your sleeve! Now is the best time to vaccinate anyone not yet protected from influenza this season. CDC’s [Weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report, FluView](#), provides a valuable snapshot of influenza activity state-by-state.
 - CDC: [Weekly National Flu Vaccination Dashboard](#) main page
 - CDC: [FluView](#) main page
 - CDC: [Influenza \(Flu\)](#) main page
 - Immunize.org: [free educational materials and patient handouts related to influenza](#)
 - Immunize.org: [Vaccines: Influenza](#) main page
 - Immunize.org: [Ask the Experts: Influenza](#) main page
 - Families Fighting Flu: [Flu Resources for Healthcare Professionals](#) main page

Vaccine News

Local News:

- [Thousands of Pa. nursing home residents are behind on their COVID vaccine boosters](#) (Philadelphia Inquirer)
- [Flu explodes in Pa., likely fueled by low vaccination, COVID-19 precautions](#) (Penn Live)

National & Global News:

- [Rise of 'Alarming' Subvariants of COVID 'Worrisome' for Winter](#) (Medscape)
- [Why mask mandates aren’t coming back even though COVID is](#) (The Washington Post)
- [COVID-19, Respiratory Illnesses Still Rising Amid Holiday Season](#) (New York Times)

- [COVID-19 bivalent boosters for young children: What parents must know](#) (AMA)
- [Growing vaccine hesitancy fuels measles, chickenpox resurgence in U.S.](#) (Washington Post)

Pennsylvania Immunization Coalition | [Website](#)



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