



# Outreach of the Month: National Immunization Awareness Month

Information for Your Patients

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Gaps in care Outreach topic: National Immunization Awareness Month

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Helpful Links:

Link 1: FDA Recognizes National Immunization Awareness Month | FDA  
Link 2: Vaccines for Children: List By Age, Benefits, Safety (verywellhealth.com)

Contact Us:

18800 Hubbard Drive, Ste. 200  
Dearborn, MI 48126

313-240-9867

<http://www.uopdocs.com>

August is National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM). NIAM is about the importance of routine vaccinations, which strengthens their immunity to HPV, chickenpox, tetanus, whooping cough, etc.

History:

- 1797: The first vaccine is made by Edward Jenner, it's a vaccine for smallpox.
- 1955: The Salk vaccine increased immunity to polio from 2-3 doses.
- 1958: There were 763,094 measles cases, which dropped to 64 in 2008 due to immunization from vaccines.
- 1995: There's a 90% drop in chickenpox cases. One dose prevented 95% of a moderate disease and 100% of severe disease.

Immunization is important because it protects us, our children, and its safe.

Three things about immunization:

1. The FDA authorizes vaccines based on evaluation and data.
2. COVID-19 vaccines and flu vaccines save lives.
3. Look carefully when considering your source of information. \*Misinformation happens quite often, so look for information from places like the CDC, or ask a doctor.

When it comes to vaccines for children:

- Look for the common vaccines that combat measles, mumps, or rubella.
- Check your state's laws to see which vaccines your child needs before attending school.
- Check a vaccine schedule to see what's required for a child from birth to 18 years old.

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