

Proposed Immunization Rule Changes For Consideration in 2009

The Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) and the Arizona Immunization Program Office (AIPO) would like to begin the next series of additions/changes to the rules to include additional vaccinations. This document is intended to inform organizations and stakeholders, gather public opinion, and gain support for these additions to the immunization rules. Reference: Arizona Administrative Code, Department of Health Services – Communicable Diseases. R9-6-701 to 708.

Proposed rules affecting children in childcare centers

- Require age-appropriate pneumococcal conjugate (PCV7) vaccinations for all children enrolled in child care centers (statewide)
- Require hepatitis A vaccinations for all children enrolled in child care centers (statewide). Currently there is a requirement for those attending child care centers in Maricopa County only

Proposed rules affecting children in schools

- Require hepatitis A vaccinations for all children entering Kindergarten or 1st grade (statewide)
- Require 2 doses of varicella vaccine for all children entering kindergarten or 1st grade (statewide). Parent recall of history of disease will be accepted through 2010, after which time, laboratory proof of immunity will be required.

During the period prior to when the requirements are finalized and put into Rule; providers, schools, childcare facilities, and parents will be notified via press announcements, newsletters, and the AIPO website.

<http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/immun/index.htm>

The Office of Administrative Rules (OAR) website provides information and status about all the ADHS rulemakings, substantive policy statements, agency guidance documents, and OAR contact information.

http://www.azdhs.gov/diro/admin_rules/required_immunizations.htm

http://www.azdhs.gov/diro/admin_rules/index.htm

Tdap vaccine and meningococcal vaccine for adolescents, and lower the age for child care attendees for hepatitis A vaccine to 12 months of age were rule additions finalized in January 2008.

If you have questions or input, please contact: Kathy Fredrickson, Office Chief, Kathy.Fredrickson@azdhs.gov or 602-364-3630 or Jennifer Ralston King, Assessment Coordinator, ralstoj@azdhs.gov or 602-364-3632.