Use These CDC Fact Sheets to Keep Patients and Staff Up to Date on Vaccine Topics

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)

Ensuring the Safety of Vaccines in the United States

- The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) issues recommendations on immunizations for the United States.
- The ACIP is responsible for making recommendations on vaccination policies and practices for the U.S. population.
- The ACIP consists of 15 members who are appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services.
- The ACIP meets several times a year to discuss and make recommendations on vaccines.

Prenatal Vaccine Safety Studies

- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) reviews vaccine safety data from Phase 1, 2, and 3 clinical trials.
- The FDA evaluates vaccine safety data from studies in animals and humans.
- The FDA also monitors vaccine safety data from vaccine manufacturers and consumers.
- The FDA provides reports to the ACIP on vaccine safety studies.

Understanding Thimerosal, Mercury, and Vaccine Safety

- Thimerosal is a compound that contains mercury.
- Thimerosal is used as a preservative in vaccines.
- Thimerosal is used in some vaccines, but not in others.
- Thimerosal is used in vaccines for children and adults.
- Thimerosal is not used in vaccines for pregnant women.

Understanding the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS)

- VAERS is a computerized system for reporting vaccine adverse events.
- VAERS is a passive surveillance system that relies on voluntary reporting of adverse events.
- VAERS reports are reviewed by the ACIP to determine whether a vaccine caused an adverse event.
- VAERS reports are monitored by the ACIP to ensure that a vaccine is safe.

Why is Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting Important?

- VAERS helps to prevent vaccine adverse events.
- VAERS helps to identify vaccine adverse events.
- VAERS helps to improve vaccine safety.
- VAERS helps to protect the public from vaccine adverse events.

Understanding How Vaccines Work

- Vaccines work by stimulating the immune system to produce antibodies.
- Antibodies help the body to fight off infection.
- Vaccines can prevent disease.
- Vaccines can protect people from infections.

The Immune System—The Body's Defense Against Infection

- The immune system helps the body to fight off infection.
- The immune system is made up of several different components.
- The immune system is responsible for protecting the body.
- The immune system is responsible for fighting off infection.

Types of Vaccines

- There are many different types of vaccines.
- There are inactivated vaccines.
- There are live, killed vaccines.
- There are recombinant vaccines.
- There are subunit vaccines.
- There are conjugate vaccines.

Vaccine Adverse Events

- Vaccine adverse events can happen after vaccination.
- Vaccine adverse events can be serious.
- Vaccine adverse events can be reported to VAERS.
- Vaccine adverse events can be reviewed by the ACIP.

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