

April 22, 2020

CDPHE School Required Immunization Guidance during COVID-19:

While the vaccines to prevent COVID-19 are in development, the need to protect children from vaccine preventable disease (VPD) is a high priority in Colorado.

The Colorado Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics encourages health care providers to continue to provide care, especially well child visits and routine vaccination services. <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/guidance-on-providing-pediatric-ambulatory-services-via-telehealth-during-covid-19/>

As Colorado's stay-at-home orders transition to safer-at-home orders, many health care provider offices are reaching out to families to ensure that their patients continue to receive routine preventative care.

Some parents may be reluctant to make appointments with their children's health care providers in light of COVID-19 due to a lack of understanding regarding health and safety protocols in health care practices. Please encourage parents to contact their health care providers to inquire about routine well-child visits during COVID-19, or to reach out to their local public health agencies to know when immunization services are available in their communities.

Because of the concern of potential VPD outbreaks during COVID-19, the Colorado Board of Health school-required immunization rules remain in place. School Nurses and Child Care Health Consultants can advocate for families by assisting them in obtaining immunizations for their children. Students who are up-to-date on vaccines, have a plan in place or have on file a medical or non-medical exemption are compliant for school attendance.