This policy applies to the following entity(s):

- Children's Hospital of WI- Milwaukee
- Children's Hospital of WI-Fox Valley

SUBJECT: Immunizations - Vaccines : Administration and Follow-up Care for In-Patients and Out-patients

POLICY

Purpose and Background
Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin is committed to improving the health status of children in Wisconsin. Partnering with families to ensure that children and adolescents are current with recommended immunizations is a priority focus area.

Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin will administer vaccines in compliance with State and Federal regulations for immunizations when medically indicated.

Vaccine status will be validated prior to administration using the Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR). Current vaccine information provided by families will be updated in the WIR.

PROCEDURE

A. Screening / Administration/Documentation

Inpatient: Refer to CHW Intranet - Quick Links – Immunizations – Inpatient Immunization Implementation Tools – Inpatient Immunization Process Map

Ambulatory: Refer to CHW Intranet - Quick Links – Immunizations – Ambulatory Immunization Implementation Tools – Ambulatory Immunization Flowchart

B. Immunization/Vaccination Information:

In the majority of cases, premature infants, regardless of birth weight, should be vaccinated at the same chronological age and according to the same schedule and precautions as full-term infants and children. For schedule information available in both English and Spanish, refer to CHW Intranet – Quick Links – Immunizations – Giving Immunizations
C. **Storage and Handling of Immunobiologics: Ambulatory only**
   Failure to adhere to recommended specifications for storage and handling of immunobiologics can reduce potency, resulting in an inadequate immune response. Recommendations from Pharmacy should be followed carefully. Clinics that have a stock vial will have the package insert for their bottle reference. Single vials will be discarded. Multidose vials will be discarded at 28 days or on a date prior if there is visible evidence of multiple punctures, or visible evidence of contamination.

D. **Contraindications and Precautions:** National standards for pediatric immunizations practices have been established. True contraindications and precautions to vaccinations are located on the [CHW Intranet – Quick Links – Immunizations – Giving Immunizations](http://aapredbook.aappublications.org).

E. **Adverse Event Reporting:** If an adverse reaction occurs, complete the on-line located on the [Quick Links](http://aapredbook.aappublications.org) section of the [CHW Intranet](http://aapredbook.aappublications.org) under the [Safety/Incidents Reports](http://aapredbook.aappublications.org). (For further information refer to Medication Management P&P).

F. CHW participates in the [Vaccines for Children (VFC) program](http://aapredbook.aappublications.org). Eligible children will receive free vaccine. Eligibility includes: Medicaid enrolled patients, uninsured patients and American Indians and Alaskan Natives. In the medical health record, a sidebar report will display this information obtained during admission, and the nurse will document yes or no. The pharmacy will provide a VFC eligibility documentation form to the inpatient units with each vaccine and will provide a supply of forms to the clinics that stock vaccines. The RN will complete the form for each vaccine given and return to the pharmacy. Eligibility in Ambulatory is determined by designated staff who enter the immunization into the electronic health record.

**References**

American Academy of Pediatrics.  Red Book Online. AAP.org  
[http://aapredbook.aappublications.org](http://aapredbook.aappublications.org)

CDC. General Recommendations on Immunization: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP).  [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/ACIP-list.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/ACIP-list.htm)

CDC. Updated: vaccine side effects, adverse reactions, contraindications and precautions: recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Vaccines and Immunizations. Is  
[www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/acip](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/acip)

Approved by the Joint Clinical Practice Council 04/2012

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Formerly: Nursing Policy #225 - Immunization/Vaccines  
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Immunization/Vaccines: Administration & Follow-up Care for In-Patients and Out-Patients/ppp