

## North Carolina Immunization Branch



# VAX FACTS

The place to go to be in the know!

February 2018

### **Educational Events:**

Need help obtaining your certificate for the required annual training modules?

Click [here](#) for a step by step guide from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Modules required for the primary vaccine coordinator and back-up coordinator are [You Call the Shots: Storage and Handling](#) and [You Call the Shots: Vaccines for Children](#). Both modules must be completed to fulfill the annual requirement for those who will not be able to attend the North Carolina Immunization Program (NCIP) Regional Trainings in 2018.

Want more educational opportunities for your practice? The CDC offers [free email subscription service](#), making it easy for you to learn more about different topics.

# Clinician's Corner



All **intramuscular** vaccine injections should be administered at a 90 degree angle. Aspiration is NOT recommended. The preferred site is the anterolateral aspect of the thigh or the deltoid muscle of the arm, depending on the patients age.

For the majority of **infants 12 months of age and younger**, the anterolateral aspect of the thigh is the recommended site. Depending on body mass, a 1" needle is usually sufficient to penetrate the thigh muscle. Most **neonates**, within the first 28 days of life, will require a 5/8" needle.

For **children 3-10 years of age**, the deltoid muscle is preferred. Depending on body mass, a 5/8-1" needle is usually sufficient to penetrate the deltoid muscle. The anterolateral thigh can also be used. A 1– 1.25" needle is usually sufficient to penetrate the thigh muscle.

For **adolescents 11-18 years of age**, the deltoid muscle is preferred using a 1" needle. A 5/8" needle can be used in the deltoid, if the adolescent weighs less than 130 lbs. The thigh can also be used if needed. Most adolescents will require a 1-1.5" needle if using the thigh.

For **adults**, the deltoid is also recommended for intramuscular injections. As with all age groups, the thigh can be used if needed. Needle length varies based on gender and weight. For men and women weighing less than 130 lbs, a 5/8" needle is recommended if using a 90 degree angle and the tissue is not bunched. For men and women weighing 130-152 lbs, a 1" needle is recommended. For women who weigh 152-200 lbs and men weighing 152-260 lbs, a 1– 1.5" needle is recommended. For women who weigh 200 lbs or greater and men who weigh 260 lbs or greater, a 1.5" needle length is recommended.

For more information or a handout to post in your clinic area, please click [here](#).

CDC recommends using a [skills checklist](#) to ensure competency.

# Compliance Component



## NCIP Coverage Criteria

The [coverage criteria](#) was updated in November. Check it out!

## Data Loggers and Min/Max Readings

As of January 1, 2018 all providers must use a continuous monitoring thermometer (data logger) to monitor temperatures in all storage units that contain vaccine. Your back-up thermometer must also be a data logger.

Providers are required to read and manually record the current temperature twice each day, once when the clinic opens and once when the clinic closes (including half days), from a data logger with a probe inside the unit as well as record and clear the min/max reading once a day (when the clinic opens). Recorded temperatures must include time of reading and the name and/or initials of the person assessing temperatures. You will need to use a flash drive to download temperatures from your data loggers. It is recommended that you download temperatures on a weekly basis and save them to a computer file.

Be sure to take immediate action when temperatures are out-of-range (this includes Min/Max data logger temperatures). Call the NCIP at 877-873-6247, OPTION 4, for assistance and document on the temperature log any actions taken. Isolate the affected vaccine, mark "DO NOT USE," and store the vaccines under appropriate conditions in a properly functioning vaccine storage unit.

Always contact the Immunization Branch prior to the purchase of new equipment (data loggers/storage units) to ensure program requirements are met. The CDC recommends pharmaceutical grade refrigerators and freezers for storing vaccines. The NCIP requires all new purchases of refrigerators/freezers to be pharmaceutical grade units.

Click here for more info: [storage and handling](#).

# NCIR News to Use



How important is the client demographic information in NCIR? The immunization record (patient copy) displays demographics, contact info, immunization history and immunizations recommended by date according to the tracking schedule for that client. **To be a certified immunization record , the address of the child and the parent/guardian must be present.** Demographic information is also required to generate reminder letters for clients not up-to-date. Without complete address information, the client will be omitted from your listing. The health department also uses this information to track children residing in the county that are behind schedule and vulnerable to vaccine preventable disease. **All NCIR users must sign a [confidentiality agreement](#)!**

### Demographic Information Screen: Personal Information and Client Information

**Personal Information - Client ID: 5999144**

This Client ID number is a universal ID number for your client in the NCIR

Save  
History/Recommend  
Reports  
Cancel

\*Last Name: WONKA  
\*First Name: WILLIE  
Middle Name:   
Mother's Maiden Last:   
\*Mother's First Name:   
Gender:  M  F  Unknown  
\*Birth Date: 05/01/2006  
\*County of Residence: Wake  
Last Notice:   
NOTE: Fields marked with an asterisk \* are required

When entering the patient's personal information. Please make sure that patient names that are entered into the NCIR reflect the patients' true, legally-documented name (via the birth certificate).

All items in **BLUE** with an asterisk are required fields (this includes the mother's maiden first and last name!)

Please make sure to **verify the status** of the patient. There are three to chose from: **active, inactive or permanently inactive - deceased.** If you are serving a client then their **Status** should be Active.

Client Information   Responsible Person(s)   Client Comment(s)

**Eligibility**

Verification Date:   
Eligibility as reported by Responsible Person:   
Ethnicity: Unknown  
Race: Unknown

**Provider Organization Specific Data**

Chart #: 5678  
Status: Active

Under the **Client Information tab**, you want to capture as much information as possible when the patient is near you. This includes the patient's **race, ethnicity and chart number** (if applicable).

# Storage and Handling Segment

Begin 2018 with a review of vaccine storage and handling!

Make sure your [Emergency Plan](#) and [Routine Management Plans](#) are up to date. These plans must be signed and dated within the last year.

The [Minimum Storage and Handling Guidelines](#) have also been updated. Always have these guidelines available for review by staff. We suggest you keep a copy posted on your storage units along with your Emergency and Routine Management Plans.

Make sure you are following all the guidelines for monitoring and recording temperatures. See the Compliance Component Section of this Vax Facts edition for more information on recent updates. The most current [refrigerator temperature log](#) and [freezer log](#) can be found by clicking on the blue links.

Store all vaccines in their original containers. Make sure to use the specific diluent provided by the manufacturer.

Check to make sure you have [DO NOT UNPLUG](#) signs on all your storage units and your circuit breaker.

Call the NCIP Storage and Handling Line for questions 919-707-5574.



# Special Recognitions

## 2017 CDC Childhood Immunization Award

Dr. Emmanuel “Chip” Walter Jr. of Duke University Medical Center is the recipient of the 2017 CDC Childhood Immunization Champion Award. This award is given jointly by the CDC and the CDC Foundation to honor those who are going above and beyond to promote childhood immunizations in their communities. Dr. Walter has a long history of commitment to vaccine research and pediatric care, including serving as a member of the North Carolina Immunization Advisory

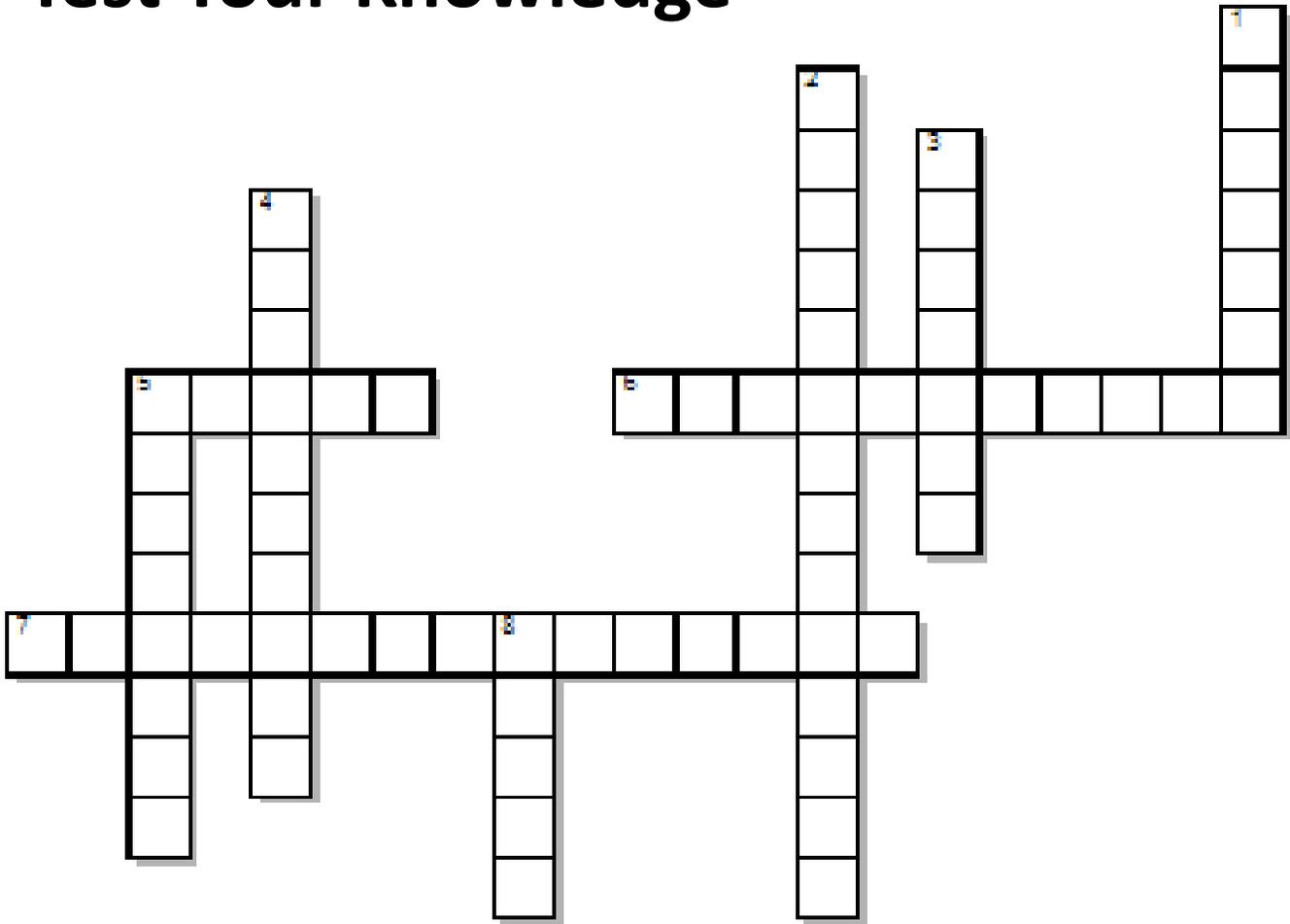


Committee and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). Dr. Walter is a professor of pediatrics at Duke and an active clinician at several clinics in the Durham area. **Congrats, Dr. Walter!** Pictured above is Dr. Walter receiving his award from NCIP Branch Head, Wendy Holmes.

## Hepatitis B Birth Dose Honor Roll

Carolina East Medical Center in New Bern and Halifax Regional Medical Center in Roanoke Rapids have been added to the Immunization Action Coalition’s (IAC) Hepatitis B Birth Dose Honor Roll. The Honor Roll recognizes hospitals and birthing centers that have attained high coverage rates for administration of the hepatitis b vaccine at birth. Carolina East reported a coverage rate of 94% from 10/1/2016 to 9/30/2017. Halifax Regional reported a 98% rate from 9/1/2016 to 9/30/2017. This is Halifax Regional’s second time joining this prestigious list. For more information on this award and to see past honorees, visit IAC’s website at [www.immunize.org/honor-roll/birthdose/](http://www.immunize.org/honor-roll/birthdose/). **Way to go Carolina East and Halifax Regional!**

# Test Your Knowledge



## Across

- 5 Preferred injection site for infants
- 6 All thermometers must be this type
- 7 All NCIR users should sign this agreement

## Down

- 1 Required component to make an immunization record official
- 2 Recommended grade storage units for vaccines
- 3 Preferred injection site for adults
- 4 This is not required when administering immunizations
- 5 Must be completed prior to annual re-enrollment
- 8 How often temperatures must be read/recorded daily