

To: AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Providers

Date: August 5, 2025

Subject: August is National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM)

Summary: To highlight National Immunization Awareness Month as well as providing information on vaccine hesitancy.

August is National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM). It is important to spread awareness around the need for children to get recommended vaccines timely. Nationally, a vaccine exemption(s) was reported for an average of 3.3% exemptions filed for 2.8% of Louisiana kindergarteners.

There has also been an increase of measles cases reported throughout the United States, with one confirmed case. Additional information on measles from the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) can be found [Here](#).

During NIAM, AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana encourages you to ensure patients are up to date on recommended vaccines. Research has consistently shown that healthcare professionals are the most trusted source of vaccine information for parents and patients. This summer, start reminding patients of the importance of Flu vaccines for protection during the upcoming Flu season.

We encourage healthcare professionals to use NIAM as an opportunity to access immunization information from LDH using the links below:

- <https://ldh.la.gov/immunization-program/vaccines>
- <https://ldh.la.gov/faq/category/126>

As a reminder, healthcare providers are expected to complete required immunizations for children ages birth through 20 during well-child visits. To comply with this policy, practitioners should enroll in the Louisiana Vaccines for Children (VFC) program to receive vaccines without charge for Medicaid children ages birth to age 18. To enroll, contact the Immunization Program Office at 1-504-568-2600.

***Please Note:** Louisiana Medicaid also considers beneficiaries ages 19 and 20 as part of the EPSDT population. Therefore, age-appropriate immunizations are required for these members, although they are outside of VFC.

Questions: Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the care of our members. If you have questions about this communication, please contact AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Provider

Services at 1-888-922-0007 or your Provider Network Management Account Executive at <https://www.amerihealthcaritasla.com/pdf/provider/account-executives.pdf>

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Missed an alert? You can find a complete list of provider alerts on our website's [Provider Newsletters and Updates](#) page.

Need to update your provider information? Send full details to network@amerihealthcaritasla.com.

References:

https://www.nola.com/entertainment_life/louisiana_health/declines-in-kindergarten-vaccinations/article_7893c746-f847-11ef-94bd-13ea9c2e6703.html#:~:text=As%20the%20measles%20outbreak%20continues,71.51%25%20in%202023%2D2024

[https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/73/wr/mm7341a3.htm#:~:text=Nonmedical%20exemptions%20account%20for%20%3E93,%5BArkansas%5D\)%20\(Table\)](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/73/wr/mm7341a3.htm#:~:text=Nonmedical%20exemptions%20account%20for%20%3E93,%5BArkansas%5D)%20(Table))

<https://www.ldh.la.gov/news/R1-measles-case>