



## Indian Health Service E3 VACCINE STRATEGY

### Every Patient, Every Encounter, Every Recommended Vaccine

11/17/22

#### **Background:**

The COVID-19 pandemic has adversely impacted vaccination rates for vaccine preventable illnesses throughout the United States, including in [tribal communities served by the Indian Health Service](#). In addition, vaccination remains a critical defense against [COVID-19](#) and [Monkeypox](#). Vaccination is among the most effective prevention efforts in the IHS system of healthcare. Reducing the burden of vaccine-preventable disease in American Indian and Alaska Native populations requires a pro-active comprehensive strategy that ensures routine access to **ALL recommended vaccines, inclusive of COVID-19, Monkeypox, and ACIP-recommended vaccines for all age groups.**

#### **Vaccine Strategy:**

IHS advocates that **EVERY PATIENT AT EVERY ENCOUNTER SHOULD BE OFFERED EVERY RECOMMENDED VACCINE**, when [clinically indicated](#). This strategy is designed to prioritize vaccination across the full spectrum of age, IHS clinical and public health settings, and patient encounters- including acute, chronic, and preventive care visits as well as public health encounters ranging from home visits to community events, when appropriate. As a prevention strategy, vaccination is a pillar of the IHS comprehensive system of healthcare services.

#### **Guidance and Resources:**

IHS Areas and Facilities are encouraged to collaborate with tribal, local, regional, state and federal (e.g. BIE) partners to maximize the efficiency of vaccination efforts through activities such as public health education, expanded vaccine access in clinical settings, and community outreach activities. In addition, a proactive team approach is advocated that involves **Area and Facility** leadership & governance as well as staff in medical, pharmacy, nursing, public health, information technology, and other support roles to ensure a multi-disciplinary vaccine prioritization approach.

#### **Areas and Facilities are encouraged to;**

- Incorporate [CDC community vaccination strategies](#) and **apply them broadly** to [COVID-19](#), [Monkeypox](#), and all [ACIP Recommended Vaccines](#) for both [pediatric](#) and [adult](#) populations. These include; Vaccine Ambassadors, Medical Provider Vaccine Standardization, Medical Reminders, Motivational Interviewing, Incentives, School-Located Vaccination Programs, Home-Delivered Vaccination, Workplace Vaccination, Effective Messages Delivered by Trusted Messengers, Provider Recommendation, and Combating Misinformation.
- Utilize IHS vaccine resources for [COVID-19](#), [Monkeypox](#), and the [Safeguard Our Future Vaccine Toolkit for Parents and Families](#).