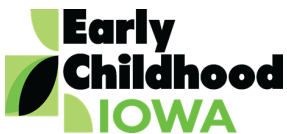


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Call your Child Care Nurse Consultant (CCNC) if you have any questions about child health and safety, or any special training needs.



www.earlychildhoodiowa.org

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Quality Care For Kids

A newsletter for Scott County
Child Care Providers

Written by Stacy Kraft, RN BSN

AUGUST 2019

National Immunization Month

August marks National Immunization Awareness month! Immunizations are vital to the health of all children and adults, and help to protect against several types of serious diseases, including: chicken pox, tetanus, meningitis, measles, mumps, rubella, pneumococcal, whooping cough, hepatitis B, to name a few. On-time vaccination throughout childhood is essential because it helps provide immunity before children are exposed to potentially life-threatening diseases.

When in close contact with others, including in child care, preschool settings, and schools, bacteria and viruses can be spread very easily, with serious consequences. These facilities are more at risk of spreading illnesses due to proper hygiene not being followed. Children sneeze on their hands and toys, cough into their hands, and sometimes do not wash their hands properly.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has created an immunization schedule for health care providers to follow beginning at birth, as well as a catch up schedule for

those that fall behind on immunizations. This is the schedule that Iowa health care providers follow.

In Iowa, to attend child care and/or school, a signed Certificate of Immunization must be provided upon enrollment and updated as immunizations are given. For families that do not vaccinate their children due to religious reasons, a Certificate of Exemption-Religious form must be notarized and signed. For children who are unable to obtain vaccines due to medical restrictions, a physician must provide a signed Certificate of Exemption-Medical form. Child care centers, preschools, and schools in Iowa are audited each year by their local health department for compliance with immunization records. With school right around the corner, now is a good time to review immunization records and obtain those that are missing or not up-to-date.

For more information about immunizations and the requirements for child care, contact your local child care nurse consultant.

Are you a 5-2-1-0 registered site?

Healthy Choices Count is an initiative that Iowa has created around the 5-2-1-0 health-focused model. This is a scientific model that helps children develop and maintain healthy habits through eating and physical activity. Child care providers, preschools, and schools are all able to become a registered site and receive recognition and resources. It's free to sign up! Go to <http://www.iowahealthieststate.com/resources/individuals/5210/registered-sites/> and follow the steps to become a registered site.

