



April 11, 2025

Stephanie Thomas
Committee Management Specialist
Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road NE, Mailstop H24-8
Atlanta, GA 30329

Attn: Docket No. CDC- 2025-0017

Dear Ms. Thomas:

We, the undersigned medical, public health and patient organizations, offer the following comments to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP):

As our nation faces ongoing public health threats, it is critical that we have the expertise needed to prevent and respond to disease outbreaks. By providing timely, up-to-date, evidence-based immunization recommendations, ACIP plays a key role in protecting public health. Vaccines are a lifesaving tool and the best way to protect individuals in the U.S. from numerous serious diseases. ACIP-recommended vaccines are rigorously tested and reviewed before recommendation and can prevent disease outbreaks before they start.

Currently, the measles outbreak that began in the Southwest United States is spreading to other parts of the country. As of April 3, there have been 607 confirmed cases of measles in 22 states, 74 people have been hospitalized,¹ and experts are concerned that this could represent a significant undercount. Evidence appears to indicate that this outbreak is not under control, and is spreading; sadly, two people have already died with a third death under investigation. This outbreak is occurring on the heels of the worst flu season in over a decade. There have been 168 pediatric deaths, and at least 45 million illnesses, 580,000 hospitalizations, and 25,000 deaths from flu so far this season.² And whooping cough incidence remains elevated after seeing more cases in 2024 than in over a decade.^{3,4} Outbreak responses require prompt direction and up-to-date expertise.

To combat these threats, it is crucial that ACIP continue to hold regular meetings and provide timely, evidence-based immunization recommendations to inform public health officials, providers, and patients. Local, state, and federal public health experts rely on guidance from ACIP during outbreaks and in order to prevent future outbreaks. Our organizations appreciate ACIP's ongoing commitment to public health and look forward to working with you to help keep the country safe.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Sincerely,

American Lung Association
SAFE Communities Coalition
Vaccinate Your Family

¹ Measles Cases and Outbreaks. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. April 4, 2025. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/data-research/index.html>

² Weekly US Influenza Surveillance Report: Key Updates for Week 13. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. March 29, 2025. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/fluview/surveillance/2025-week-13.html>

³ 2024 Provisional Pertussis Surveillance Report, January 2025. Available at: https://www.cdc.gov/pertussis/media/pdfs/2025/01/pertuss-surv-report-2024_PROVISIONAL-508.pdf

⁴ Pertussis Cases by Year (1922-2022), July 23, 2024. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/pertussis/php/surveillance/pertussis-cases-by-year.html>