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Childhood Vaccination Recommendations Expanded

The Alaska Division of Public Health provides vaccines free-of-charge to all Alaskans for whom they are medically recommended. Due to significant expansion of the national childhood immunization recommendations, the Section of Epidemiology has increased vaccine availability through its Vaccine Distribution Program.

Added to existing vaccine recommendations are:

Hepatitis A - available for all children 2 through 18 years of age. (2 doses)

Hepatitis B - available for all children through 18 years of age. (3 doses)

2nd dose MMR - available for all children 13 months through 18 years of age.

The Section of Epidemiology strongly urges all parents and providers to protect Alaska's children by taking advantage of this opportunity to provide protection. Additionally, availability of these vaccines greatly enhances efforts to achieve the goals of Alaska's new ***Year 2000 Childhood Immunization Initiative***. The *Initiative* is targeted toward appropriate immunization of all Alaska children through 18 years of age. Additional information on the *Year 2000 Initiative* will be provided in an upcoming *Epidemiology Bulletin*.

For questions or to obtain provider enrollment information for the Vaccine Distribution Program, call the Alaska Section of Epidemiology, Immunization Program, **269-8000**.
