

QUALITY MATTERS ISSUE

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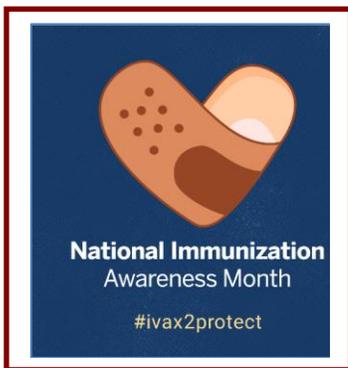
Monroe Plan's Quality Team Gives Back

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A MESSAGE FROM DR. GEORGE MATTHEWS, CMO

AUGUST IS NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION MONTH

"An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure" Benjamin Franklin



Having experienced the COVID pandemic and acknowledging the impact of the COVID vaccines in preventing or mitigating the severity of illness, we may all appreciate the utility of vaccinations as a critical tool in maintaining good health. Vaccinations have traditionally been considered predominantly for birth to age 18. The conditions that we administer vaccinations for have previously been considered a scourge among the young resulting in death or significant impairment. Illnesses such as polio, diphtheria, tetanus, and whooping cough no longer provide concern in parents in whose babies have been vaccinated. Toddlers are now able to receive vaccinations for measles mumps, rubella, hepatitis, chickenpox (varicella) and flu. Again, it must be realized that these conditions provide for significant morbidity and mortality in the unvaccinated.

The above conditions and vaccinations are well known to many of us. Why then (with the exception of the Flu and COVID vaccinations) should we accentuate immunization as a monthly initiative?

Let me focus upon one such vaccination that is not discussed to the degree that I believe is appropriate. This virus is responsible for cancer or precancer involving the cervix, vulva, anus, penis, mouth, or throat. More than 4000 women die of cervical cancer every year in the United States. Nearly 36,000 men and women are diagnosed with cancer caused by this virus. Nearly 200,000 women are estimated to be diagnosed with cervical precancer or abnormal cells on the cervix that may lead to cancer. That virus is **HPV (Human Papillomavirus)**. An effective HPV vaccination is available, and the vaccination is recommended for individuals ages 11-12. This particular vaccination can protect a child long before they ever are exposed to cancer causing infections. HPV is so common that nearly all men and women get it at some point in their lives. Ben Franklin was correct in stating "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." In this case the prevention is HPV vaccination as opposed to the cure being surgery, chemotherapy, or radiation treatment.

Finally, as an adult what vaccinations are appropriate? Currently we may understand that adults should receive the flu vaccine every year, the COVID-vaccine in accordance with current guidelines and the tetanus vaccination. The adult vaccinations are recommended based upon the fact that immunity may diminish over time following vaccination with these particular immunizations. Although August has been designated National Immunization Awareness Month, we may all (provider, parent and patient) appreciate that awareness and the receipt of vaccinations are a lifelong activity.

**Monroe Plan for Medical Care IPA
August 2022 Newsletter**

Immunizations for Adolescents (Combo 2) (IMA) Metric Requirements	
<p><u>Specific Metric Guidelines:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One meningococcal vaccine between the 11th and 13th birthday One Tdap vaccine between the 10th and 13th birthday At least three HPV vaccinations between the 9th and 13th birthday <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least two HPV vaccines between the member's 9th and 13th birthdays with 146 days between doses 	<p><u>Coding:</u></p> <p>Meningococcal: 90734 Tdap: 90715 HPV: 90649-90651</p> <p>The claim for each vaccine administered must include the vaccination supply code in addition to the administration code</p> <p>Vaccine codes: Refer to NYS Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program</p>
<p><i>Exclusion from the Measure:</i> <i>Anaphylactic reaction to the vaccine or its components any time on or before the member's 13th birthday</i></p>	

ASSISTANCE FOR UNINSURED AND AT-RISK PATIENTS

Do you have patients who are uninsured or losing their insurance and need assistance? Molina's Facilitated Enrollment team can meet with your patients, review their insurance options, and link qualifying individuals to a plan of their choice. Please contact Norma Diamond, Supervisor of Facilitated Enrollment at Norma.Diamond@MolinaHealthCare.com or (585) 261-2011.



URGENT: DOH LTSS PROCESS

If providers would like their patients to continue PCA/CDPAS services, updated MD orders must be faxed to Molina UM (866-879-4742) at least 30 days prior to authorization ending. The form (DOH 4359) must be completed in FULL. A missing CIN or DOB nullifies the form; incomplete forms are considered unacceptable as per NYS DOH Regs. Non-compliant orders will lead to your patient losing their aide services and it can take about 4-6 weeks for services to restart. Please review the forms for completeness before faxing to Molina.

Did you know that every Molina member receiving these services has an assigned RN Case Manager who speaks to the member every month? Please contact the Monroe Plan triage line at 844-337-7144 to get connected to the assigned Case Manager. S/he can assist you by providing support in submitting the 4359, answering questions regarding the LTSS process or address any concerns about your patient receiving these services.

Find the required form @ [Physician's Order for Personal Care/Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Services \(ny.gov\)](https://www.nys.gov).

NEW MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR YOUR PATIENTS

THE 988 SUICIDE & CRISIS HOTLINE



Beginning July 16, 988 became the new three-digit number for the [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#). The Lifeline will provide compassionate, accessible care and support via phone, text, or online chat to anyone experiencing mental health-related distress. Patients can use 988 if you have thoughts of suicide, mental health or substance use crises, or any other kind of emotional distress. Patients can also dial 988 if you are worried about a loved one who may need crisis support.

The current Lifeline phone number (1-800-273-8255) will always remain available to people in emotional distress or suicidal crisis, even after 988 is launched nationally.

NATIONAL MATERNAL MENTAL HEALTH HOTLINE 1-833-9-HELP4MOMS (1-833-943-5746)



Additionally, many women feel overwhelmed, sad, or anxious during their pregnancy and even after the baby is born. For some women, these emotions may stay for months. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)'s new [National Maternal Mental Health Hotline](#) provides real-time emotional support, encouragement, information, and referrals. Pregnant and postpartum women can call or text **1-833-9-HELP4MOMS (1-833-943-5746)** to get the help and resources they need when they need it.

Free Practice and Social Media Promotional Materials can be found here:

- [Search SAMHSA Publications and Digital Products | SAMHSA Publications and Digital Products](#)
- <https://mchb.hrsa.gov/national-maternal-mental-health-hotline/materials>

Monroe Plan's Quality Team Gives Back
Nutrition is Healthcare



Pictured from right to left: Jane Jackson, Kirsten Meess, Kaitlyn Brusehaber, Samantha Tolbert, Erin Nelson

The team took an afternoon to volunteer at Feed More WNY's Community Garden located at 91 Holt Street in the city of Buffalo. Feed More WNY alleviates hunger and assists communities in Erie, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, and Niagara Counties.

To learn more about Feed More WNY visit <https://www.feedmorewny.org/>