

317 FUNDED VACCINE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



WHAT IS 317 FUNDED VACCINE?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provides federal Section 317 immunization grant funds to ensure that children, adolescents, and adults receive appropriate immunizations by partnering with health care providers in public and private sectors. The objective of the immunization grant program is to reduce and ultimately eliminate vaccine-preventable diseases by increasing and maintaining high immunization coverage.

WHAT IS THE DEFINITION OF UNDERINSURED?

The Centers for Disease Control defines underinsured as a child who has commercial (private) health insurance, but the coverage does not include vaccines; covers only selected vaccines (Vaccines for Children-eligible for the non-covered vaccines only); or whose insurance caps vaccine coverage at a certain amount. Once that coverage amount is reached, the child is categorized as underinsured. Patients with a high deductible do not qualify as underinsured.

HOW DOES A LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY VERIFY THAT AN INDIVIDUAL DOES NOT HAVE INSURANCE?

Verification of a parent or guardian's response is not required.

HOW DOES A LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY VERIFY THAT AN INDIVIDUAL IS UNDERINSURED?

Verification of a parent or guardian's response is not required.

DOES AN INDIVIDUAL HAVE TO SHOW PROOF THAT THEY ARE AN AMERICAN INDIAN?

Verification of a parent or guardian's response is not required.

CAN LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES SHARE THE 317 POLICY WITH HOSPITALS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC?

Yes, please share the policy with individuals who would benefit from the information.

HOW CAN LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES INFORM MEDICAL PROVIDERS IN THE AREA TO STOP REFERRING PATIENTS WITH PRIVATE INSURANCE TO THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR IMMUNIZATIONS?

Local Public Health Agencies can send a letter to all medical professionals in the area stating that patients with health insurance can no longer receive immunizations at the health department. Patients that are underinsured must go to a Federally Qualified Health Center or Rural Health Center. Be sure to provide a listing of Federally Qualified Health Centers or Rural Health Centers in the surrounding area.

WHERE DO PRIVATE MEDICAL PROVIDERS IN THE COUNTY REFER UNDERINSURED PATIENTS?

Children that are underinsured must go to the Federally Qualified Health Center or a Rural Health Center.

CAN A SCHOOL LOCATED CLINIC BE HELD UTILIZING 317 FUNDED VACCINE?

No. Local Public Health Agencies may not utilize 317 funded vaccines to immunize children at any location other than the permanent physical address of the health department.

WHAT IF A CHILD RETURNS TO THE LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY FOR ADDITIONAL VACCINES AFTER BEING REFERRED TO THEIR MEDICAL PROVIDER OR A FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTER OR RURAL HEALTH CENTER?

This child should be immunized and again, referred to their medical provider, Federally Qualified Health Center or Rural Health Center for any follow-up or future doses.

