

# **National Immunization Awareness Month**

National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) is observed every August to highlight the importance of vaccination for people of all ages.

All staff in healthcare practices play an important role in supporting vaccination.

#### Make Vaccine Resources Easy to Find

- Include immunization schedules and other handouts in patient packets.
- Display posters and age-appropriate vaccine educational materials in the waiting room.
- Share clear and accurate information from trusted sources on your website and/or social media.

#### **Make Effective Recommendations**

- Start childhood vaccine conversations early with expectant parents.
- Use presumptive statements and trust-based guidance.
- Make recommendations based on screening forms and medical records.

## Review Vaccination Status at Every Visit

- Use electronic medical records and immunization registries to check vaccine status.
- Set up reminder systems for due or missed vaccines.
- Have patients complete screening forms at check-in.

### **Address Questions and Concerns**



- Welcome questions and provide clear, respectful answers.
- Share personal experiences, such as why you chose vaccination for yourself, or your children.
- Discuss risks of delaying/refusing and revisit later.

#### Schedule the Next Vaccination

- Let patients know which vaccines will be due next and schedule before checkout.
- Ensure timing aligns with recommended immunization schedule.
- Provide take-home materials reinforcing vaccine importance.

## Send Reminders for Upcoming or Missed Vaccines

- Use calls, texts, emails, or mail to send reminders.
- Mention upcoming vaccines during all types of visits.
- Follow up if appointments are missed.









