

Jefferson County PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

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For Immediate Release

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It's National Immunization Awareness Month! Is Your Family Up to Date on Vaccines?

August 1, 2019- Watertown, NY - August is National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM). This annual observance highlights the importance of getting recommended vaccines throughout your life. You have the power to protect yourself and your family against serious diseases like whooping cough, influenza, and pneumonia with vaccines.

The Jefferson County Public Health Service (JCPHS) encourages you talk to your doctor, pharmacist or other healthcare professional to ensure all vaccines are up to date. You can also visit the <u>CDC's Adult Vaccine Assessment Tool</u> which provides information on the vaccines recommended for adults based on age, job, chronic conditions, travel and more!

Once you receive your vaccination make sure your provider records the immunization in the New York State Immunization Registry (NYSIIS). NYSIIS is a confidential, secure, web-based system that maintains one consolidated immunization record for persons of all ages in New York State (outside of NYC). Having a complete vaccination record can save you from unneeded revaccinations, like tetanus, when you are already up-to-date.

For children, make an appointment today with your care provider. Don't wait until the beginning of the school year. Many providers offer immunization hours at their offices. Children are entered automatically in NYSIIS making for a complete vaccination record as they enter adulthood.

During NIAM, JCPHS will be sharing information and resources on social media to highlight the importance of vaccines. Help us spread the word! Follow the conversation on <u>Facebook /JCPHS</u> and use **#Jeffersonvaccinates** to share why you choose to vaccinate.

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