



*The Maryland State Medical Society*

**News: For Immediate Release**

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## **AUGUST IS NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS MONTH**

BALTIMORE, August 15, 2014 — National Immunization Awareness Month is a great time to promote vaccines and remind family, friends, and coworkers to stay up to date on their shots. Immunizations help prevent dangerous, and sometimes deadly, diseases.

We all need immunizations to help protect us from serious diseases. To help keep our community safe, MedChi is proudly participating in National Immunization Awareness Month.

Everyone age 6 months and older needs a seasonal flu shot every year. Other shots work best when they are given at certain ages. Talk to your doctor or nurse to make sure that everyone in the family gets the shots they need.

- If you have a child age 6 or younger make sure you find out which shots your child needs from your pediatrician.
- All adults need a booster shot every 10 years to help protect against tetanus and diphtheria.
- Talk to friends and family members about how vaccines aren't just for kids. People of all ages can get shots to protect them from serious diseases.
- Encourage people in your community to get the flu shot every year.
- Invite a doctor or nurse to speak to parents about why it's important for all kids to get vaccinated.

Dr. H. Russell Wright, President of MedChi, states "Shots can prevent serious diseases like the flu, measles, diphtheria, tuberculosis and rubella. It's important to know which shots you need and when to get them. We can all use this month to raise awareness about vaccines and to evaluate whether or not we are up to date with our own vaccinations."

### About MedChi

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is a non-profit membership association of Maryland physicians. It is the largest physician organization in Maryland. The mission of MedChi is to serve as Maryland's foremost advocate and resource for physicians, their patients and the public health of Maryland. For more information, please visit [www.medchi.org](http://www.medchi.org).