

MDPH Regional Immunization Nurses

The MDPH Immunization Program's Immunization Nurses are responsible for nursing activities related to communicable disease control, infectious disease response, and vaccine-preventable disease. Activities include providing health information, education, and promotion of immunizations, to medical professionals, hospitals, local health departments, other state agencies, community-based organizations, schools, and the general public.

Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention and Case Management

The goal of the perinatal hepatitis B prevention and case management program is to identify all hepatitis B positive pregnant women in Massachusetts so their newborns can receive timely and appropriate immunoprophylaxis. Infants who do not receive immunoprophylaxis have a 90% chance of becoming chronic hepatitis B carriers. Of these carriers, up to 25% will develop liver failure, liver cancer, or cirrhosis in young adulthood. Infants who receive timely and appropriate immunoprophylaxis have a 95% chance of being free from hepatitis B for life. For more information please visit: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/perinatal-hepatitis-b>

Immunization Quality Improvement for Providers (IQIP)

IQIP is CDC's national, provider-level immunization quality improvement program. IQIP is 12-month process focused on implementing provider-level strategies to increase on-time vaccination of children and adolescents, decreasing missed opportunities, and improving immunization services.

Technical Assistance and Education

- ❖ Clinical nursing subject matter expertise
- ❖ Immunization best practices
- ❖ Standards for pediatric and adolescent immunization practices
- ❖ Vaccine administration techniques
- ❖ Vaccine safety/Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS)
- ❖ Vaccine storage and handling
- ❖ Recommended vaccination schedules
- ❖ School entry vaccination requirements
- ❖ Perinatal hepatitis B prevention
- ❖ Liaison between LBOH and MDPH
- ❖ Outbreak/pandemic response
- ❖ Conference planning and facilitating
- ❖ Presentations to hospitals, LBOHs, provider practices, and other groups

MDPH Immunization Program Nurses

Laurie Courtney, MSN, RN	Nurse Manager	Laurie.A.Courtney@mass.gov
Madeline DePina, RN, BSN, MPH	Boston & Southeast Regions	Madeline.Depina@mass.gov
Denise Dillon, RN (part time)	Northeast Region	Denise.Dillon@mass.gov
Linda Jacobs, MSN, RN (part time)	Southeast Region	Linda.Jacobs@mass.gov
Sharon Leary, BS, RN	Worcester & Western Regions	Sharon.Leary@mass.gov
Ruth Mori, MSN, RN	Northeast Region	Ruth.Mori@mass.gov
Christy Norton, RN, PhD, CNM	Consultant	Christy.Norton@mass.gov
Phyllis Schilp, MSN, RN	Metrowest & Central Regions	Phyllis.Schilp@mass.gov