



POSITION STATEMENT

IMMUNIZATION STATUS OF WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES

It is the position of the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) that the role of the certified nurse-midwife (CNM®) and certified midwife (CM®) within primary care include:

- Assessing the immunization status of all clients.
- Providing clients with current information regarding the control of communicable diseases by vaccination, the risks and benefits of immunizations, current immunization guidelines and locations where immunizations are available in the community.
- Offering immunizations in the clinical setting when feasible.
- Maintaining currency in evidence-based information regarding the risks and benefits of available vaccines.

ACNM endorses the use of CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice (ACIP) recommendations to support evidence-based practice in the administration of vaccinations and prevention of communicable diseases.

Background

ACNM highly values the role of midwives in improving the health of our nation and the world by actively promoting immunizations for the women and families to whom they provide care. While ACNM respects the rights of individuals to make a choice regarding their immunization status, the organization actively endorses programs that support access to safe and affordable immunizations.

References:

CDC: Immunization Website (<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/adult.html>)
December 4, 2013)

Source: Division of Standards and Practice

Approved Board of Directors: September 1993

Revised: February, 2002, May 2007

Revised and Approved by ACNM Board of Directors December 2011

Updated: December 2013