



# POSITION STATEMENT

## IMMUNIZATION STATUS OF WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES

The American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) highly values the role of midwives in improving the health of our nation and the world by actively promoting immunizations for the 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.

It is the position of the American College of Nurse-Midwives that primary health care responsibilities of the certified nurse-midwife (CNM) and certified midwife (CM) include:

- Assessing 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 the CDC National Immunization Program (2007) to support this evidence-based practice.

### References:

CDC: National Immunization Program Website (<http://www.cdc.gov/Nip/home-hcp.htm>)  
2007

Clinical Practice Section  
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