

Main Office  
184 U.S. 41 East,  
Negaunee, MI 49866  
[www.mqthealth.org](http://www.mqthealth.org)



## PRESS RELEASE

TO: Marquette County Media  
FROM: Teresa L. Frankovich, MD, MPH, FAAP - Medical Director  
CONTACT: Jean Reynolds, RN (906) 315-2635  
DATE: April 24, 2018  
SUBJECT: National Infant Immunization Week

### **April 21–28 Is National Infant Immunization Week**

April 21–28 is National Infant Immunization Week! The purpose of this annual observance is to highlight the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases and celebrate the achievements of immunization. Join the Marquette County Health Department and communities around the nation in recognizing National Infant Immunization Week and celebrate the critical role vaccination plays in protecting the health of our children, families, and communities.

Infants in the United States are protected against 14 preventable diseases when fully immunized. Vaccines for infants are especially important because some of the diseases they protect against can be especially dangerous for children under the age of two. It is important to follow the recommended immunization schedule to protect infants and children by providing immunity early in life, before they are exposed to potentially life-threatening diseases. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), among children born during 1994–2013, vaccination will prevent an estimated 322 million illnesses, 21 million hospitalizations, and 732,000 deaths over the course of their lifetimes.

Vaccine-prevented diseases may seem like threats from the past; however, children can still get and spread these diseases. The United States is seeing the return of vaccine-preventable diseases—such as measles, whooping cough, and mumps—that had once been considered eliminated. It is extremely important that all infants are vaccinated on time.

It is the responsibility of parents, physicians, and public health providers to make sure that all children are up-to-date on vaccinations. Parents should talk with their child’s health care provider to ensure that their baby is up-to-date on vaccinations. If parents cannot afford immunizations for their child or have further questions, they can call the Marquette County Health Department Immunization Clinic at [906-475-7844](tel:906-475-7844). More information on vaccinations can be found at [ivaccinate.org](http://ivaccinate.org).