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“AMGA Immunizations Brief”—brought to you by the Rise to Immunize® (RIZE) campaign—delivers vaccine news and updates relevant to healthcare leaders. This brief provides concise, actionable information to help you stay informed and guide patient care in an evolving immunization landscape.

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At a Glance

- President Trump has nominated Nicole Saphier for Surgeon General, and the FDA has named Katherine Szarama as Acting Director of CBER.
- DOJ has appealed a ruling blocking HHS vaccine policy changes.
- A comprehensive evidence review reaffirms HPV vaccines as safe and highly effective.
- New studies highlight the role of information sources and messaging in shaping vaccine trust.
- BCBS companies will continue to cover all ACIP-recommended immunizations with no cost sharing through 2027.

Detailed Brief

President Trump has nominated Nicole Saphier for Surgeon General, and the FDA has named Katherine Szarama as Acting Director of CBER.

- On Apr. 30, President Trump [announced](#) his nomination of Nicole Saphier, MD—a practicing radiologist and former Fox News contributor—for the position of Surgeon General.
- While Saphier has expressed support for vaccines, specifically pointing to the importance of measles and polio vaccines, she has also [questioned](#) aspects of the childhood vaccine schedule—including the hepatitis B birth dose and COVID-19 vaccines for children—and has taken a public stance opposing mandates.
- Katherine Szarama, PhD, has been [named](#) Acting Director of the Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA’s) Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER), which oversees products including vaccines, gene therapies, and blood supply.

DOJ has appealed a ruling blocking HHS vaccine policy changes.

- The Trump Administration has [appealed](#) a Mar. 16 ruling that paused several vaccine policy changes implemented by Secretary Kennedy.

- The [lawsuit](#)—brought by the American Academy of Pediatrics, other medical societies, and additional plaintiffs—argues that the changes to the federally recommended childhood immunization schedule and the reconstitution of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) were unlawful.
- The court issued a [temporary injunction](#) restoring the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) Jul. 2025 immunization schedule and blocking the appointment of new members to ACIP. The ruling found plaintiffs were likely to succeed in their claims that the Administration's actions violated federal law.
- The Department of Justice (DOJ) [has not](#) publicly detailed the legal basis for its appeal, which will be [heard](#) by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.
- Additionally, the Administration sought to pause the case while the appeal proceeds, but on May 1, a federal court [denied](#) that request, leaving the injunction in place and ACIP unable to meet.

A comprehensive evidence review reaffirms HPV vaccines as safe and highly effective.

- An [independent evidence review](#) of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination reaffirms the vaccine's strong safety and effectiveness profile.
- The meta-analysis of 274 studies found that HPV vaccination reduces the risk of cervical cancer by 80% among women vaccinated before age 16 and by 66% among those vaccinated after 16. Protection was shown to last at least 16 years following vaccination.
- Importantly, the review found no association between HPV vaccination and serious adverse events, including pregnancy complications, neurological conditions, or long-term health risks.

New studies highlight the role of information sources and messaging in shaping vaccine trust.

- A recent Johns Hopkins University [survey](#) of nearly 3,000 U.S. adults found that measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine hesitancy is closely associated with individuals' media habits. The study found that individuals who rely on nontraditional or nonmedical information sources, including certain online and alternative media, were significantly more likely to report hesitancy compared to those who rely on healthcare professionals and mainstream medical sources.
- A separate [analysis](#) found that recent CDC communication on vaccines, particularly related to autism, may be contributing to confusion and declining public trust.

BCBS companies will continue to cover all ACIP-recommended immunizations with no cost sharing through 2027.

- Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) companies [will continue](#) their commitment to cover all ACIP-recommended immunizations with no cost sharing through 2027, while operating within federal and state laws and meeting program and customer requirements.

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