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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

- The Trump Administration delays nomination for CDC Director.
- The FDA's top infectious disease regulator is leaving the agency in April, following other senior agency staff.
- ACIP's Vice Chair announced his resignation following last week's preliminary ruling in favor of the AAP.
- The American Academy of Family Physicians has launched its new immunization schedules.
- Recent studies provide new evidence for COVID-19 and shingles vaccine safety.
- Seasonal influenza activity is declining nationwide, but pediatric deaths related to flu are still significant.

Detailed Brief

The Trump Administration delays nomination for CDC Director.

- Following the Departure of Susan Monarez, MD, as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Director, the White House tapped National Institutes of Health Director Jayanta Bhattacharya, MD, PhD, to serve as the second Acting Director.
- Under federal law, acting officials may generally serve for up to 210 days, but an acting official may continue serving while a nomination is pending in the Senate.
- Per this requirement, the administration failed to announce their nominee by Thursday, Mar. 26, though [White House officials have indicated](#) that a nominee will be announced “in short order.”

The FDA's top infectious disease regulator is leaving the agency in April, following other senior agency staff.

- Last week, the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's) top infectious disease regulator, Adam Sherwat, MD, announced he will be [departing](#) the agency on April 4—the latest in a series of

senior leadership exits.

ACIP's Vice Chair announced his resignation following last week's preliminary ruling in favor of the AAP.

- In the wake of uncertainty surrounding Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' (ACIP's) restructuring, Robert Malone, MD, [resigned](#) from his role as Vice Chair of ACIP. See last week's [AMGA Immunizations Brief](#) for more information on the preliminary ruling.

The American Academy of Family Physicians has launched its new immunization schedules.

- The [new immunization schedules](#) are evidence based to help clinicians make clear, science-backed vaccine recommendations.

Recent studies provide new evidence for COVID-19 and shingles vaccine safety.

- A [Canadian case-control study](#) found that young, healthy people have no additional risk of sudden death if they are vaccinated against COVID-19. Healthy adolescents and young adults vaccinated against COVID-19 were 43% less likely to experience sudden death than non-vaccinated people.
- Additionally, a recent phase four [randomized controlled study](#) found that it is safe to administer Shingrix to patients who are stable on therapy for autoimmune conditions.

Seasonal influenza activity is declining nationwide, but pediatric deaths related to flu are still significant.

- According to the CDC, seasonal influenza activity is trending downward across the country, with high or very high levels of influenza-like illness (ILI) reported in 10 jurisdictions.
 - There have been at least 28 million illnesses, 360,000 hospitalizations, and 22,000 deaths from flu so far this season, according to [CDC estimates](#).
- Deaths of 14 more children were reported during week 10, for a total of 115 child deaths with influenza reported so far this season.

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