

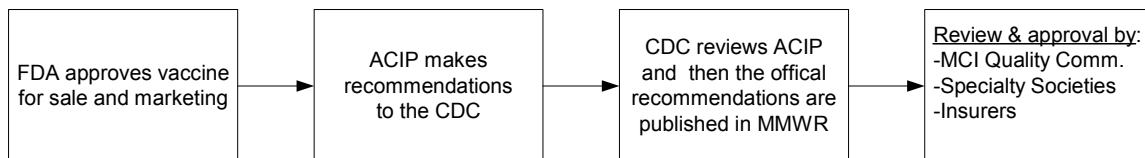
MERCY CLINICS, INC. PRACTICE GUIDELINE

Vaccine Recommendation and Review

The United States currently has the safest, most effective vaccines in its history. Vaccine-preventable disease levels are currently at or near record lows. Mercy Clinics, Inc. is committed to ensuring vaccine safety. Mercy Clinics, Inc. endorses the following recommendations for the systematic review of new vaccines as well as for the enhanced recommendations for previously established vaccines:

1. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approves vaccines making them available for distribution and marketing in the United States. After FDA approval, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) evaluates the vaccine. The CDC reviews recommendations of the ACIP. They become the official recommendations of the CDC once they are accepted by the Director of CDC and Secretary of Health and Human Services and are published in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR).
2. Following the official MMWR publication, the MCI Quality Committee's Immunization subcommittee will convene to review the official publication and other corresponding/appropriate literature.
3. The Immunization subcommittee will balance benefit, risk, and insurance coverage to determine its recommendation for placement on MCI's standardized immunization schedule and will provide that recommendation to the full Quality Committee for consideration.
4. The MCI VP for Quality will present the Quality Committee's recommendation to Council of Medical Director's for final consideration.

The process is summarized in the Flow diagram below:



Reference: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website:

http://www.cdc.gov/nip/recs/provisional_rec/default.htm

Variation from this guideline is always acceptable if in the opinion of the attending physician individual circumstances require it