

Jamie Peters

From: WA DOH Communicable Disease Epidemiology <waDOH@public.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 5:30 PM
To: Jamie Peters
Subject: Update: Do Not Use Live-attenuated Chikungunya Vaccine in People Aged 60+

This sender is trusted.



Provider Update: Do Not Use Live-attenuated Chikungunya Vaccine in People Aged 60+

May 20, 2025

Dear Local Health Jurisdiction and Tribal Health Partner Colleagues,

In February 2025, Washington Department of Health sent a [Provider Alert](#) about adverse events in older adults related to IXCHIQ, a live-attenuated chikungunya vaccine.

This month, the [CDC and FDA recommended](#) that health care providers STOP administration of IXCHIQ vaccine to people 60 years and older until reports of serious adverse events are further investigated.

Current Situation:

Over the past few months, CDC and FDA investigated six serious adverse events, including five hospitalizations, for cardiac or neurologic events following vaccination with IXCHIQ among older people. This topic was discussed at the [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\) meeting on April 16, 2025](#). Since then, CDC and FDA have become aware of [additional reports](#) of serious adverse events among people aged 62 to 89 years following the use of the vaccine in other

countries, leading to CDC and FDA recommending a pause in use for people aged 60 years and older while investigations continue.

Additional Requests for Healthcare Providers:

- Report any adverse event following vaccination to [VAERS](#), the CDC's Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System.
- Review the latest [CDC Travel Health Notices](#) for information on areas with chikungunya outbreaks.
- Counsel patients traveling to areas with risk of chikungunya on how they can [prevent mosquito bites](#).
- Refer to the package inserts for information on the two chikungunya vaccines now licensed in the United States: [IXCHIQ](#) and [VIMKUNYA](#).
- Discuss the risks and benefits of vaccination with your patients based on each traveler's destination, trip duration, and age; withhold IXCHIQ vaccine for any patients 60+.
- Report suspected cases of chikungunya to your [Local Health Jurisdiction](#).

Background:

[Chikungunya virus](#) infection can cause significant illness with fever and joint pain, which can be severe and disabling. Chikungunya is spread to people by the bite of an infected mosquito. The virus is not endemic (continually present) in the continental United States, but outbreaks have occurred in Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and islands in the Indian and Pacific Oceans. There is a risk the virus can spread to unaffected areas by infected travelers. Travelers can take steps to protect themselves from chikungunya by [preventing mosquito bites](#).

Contact:

To report suspected cases of Chikungunya, please contact the WA DOH Zoonotic Disease Program at zd@doh.wa.gov.

For any questions related to immunizations, please contact the WA DOH Office of Immunization at immunenurses@doh.wa.gov.



To request this document in another format, call 1-800-525-0127. Deaf or hard of hearing customers, please call 711 (Washington Relay) or email doh.information@doh.wa.gov

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) | [Help](#)



This email was sent to jamiepeters@whitmancounty.net using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: Washington State Department of Health · 101 Israel Road SE, Tumwater, WA 98501

