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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 U.S. now has more than twice as many measles cases in 2026 as in all of 2025.
- Flu and RSV activity is increasing across much of the country, though overall respiratory illness activity remains low.
- CDC Deputy Director Dr. Jennifer Shuford is expected to depart the agency after just six months.
- The CDC is seeking nominations for ACIP membership following the publication of a new charter.

Detailed Brief

The U.S. now has more than twice as many measles cases in 2026 as in all of 2025.

- U.S. measles cases this year have now more than doubled the total reported in 2025, marking the country's worst resurgence of the disease in over than three decades. As of Oct. 22, there have been more than 4,730 cases and 43 outbreaks nationwide, compared with 2,286 cases during all of 2025.
    - National measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccination coverage among kindergartners has fallen to 92.4%, and available data show that roughly two-thirds of counties and jurisdictions are now below the 95% level needed to prevent sustained transmission.
- The surge comes just weeks before the Pan American Health Organization's (PAHO) Nov. 10–13 review, which will assess whether the U.S. and other countries across the Americas have maintained measles elimination. The U.S. has maintained elimination status since 2000, but sustained transmission puts that designation at risk.

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- As of Oct. 23, flu infections are growing or likely growing in 44 states, and seasonal flu activity is low but increasing nationally.
  - Week 41 (ending Oct. 17) saw 4,811 flu hospitalizations and 47 flu deaths.
- COVID-19 infections are growing or likely growing in 10 states as of Oct. 23; national COVID-19 activity is low, with overall acute respiratory illness remaining very low.
- As of the same date, RSV infections are growing or likely growing in 38 states, with national RSV activity low but increasing.

CDC Deputy Director Dr. Jennifer Shuford is expected to depart the agency after just six months.

- Deputy Director and Chief Medical Officer of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Jennifer Shuford, MD, MPH, is expected to leave the Administration following the Nov. 3 midterm elections, just six months after joining the agency.
  - Shuford, an infectious disease physician and former Texas health commissioner, was appointed in April as part of a new four-person leadership team tasked with stabilizing the CDC and restoring public confidence following significant leadership turnover and controversy over federal vaccine policy.

The CDC is seeking nominations for ACIP membership following the publication of a new charter.

- A Federal Register notice published on Oct. 30 announced that the CDC is seeking nominations for membership on the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).
  - Nominations are sought for individuals who have the expertise and qualifications that represent a range of scientific, clinical, and public health expertise, including those knowledgeable about consumer perspectives and/or social and community aspects of immunization programs. This diverges from the expertise traditionally sought for ACIP membership.
- ACIP has not met since December 2025 due to ongoing litigation challenging the charter and membership.

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