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NEWS RELEASE

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NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION SURVEY

The Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) would like to inform the public that the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will conduct the National Immunization Survey (NIS) in Guam. Beginning mid-April 2018, CDC's contractor, NORC at the University of Chicago, will administer the Guam 2018 NIS. This survey is intended to help assess immunization coverage among children 19 – 35 months of age, and adolescents between the ages of 13 – 17 years old. We ask the public: if you are called, please cooperate, as the information collected is important. **The no-charge, off-island telephone call will have the Chicago area code of (312).**

SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the National Immunization Survey (NIS)?

NIS is a random digital-dial telephone survey used to find households with children between the ages of 19 – 35 months or 13 – 17 years of age living in the home. Parents or guardians will be asked to provide information on the date and type of vaccinations given to their children. At the end of the interview, authorization to contact their child's vaccination provider will be requested from the parent or guardian. The health care provider will then be contacted by mail to verify the child's vaccinations. All data collected will be sent to the CDC for analysis and then provided to the DPHSS, Immunization Program to compare Guam's vaccination rates with those of other states and territories.

How is NIS information used?

The data gathered by NIS is used to identify groups at risk of vaccine-preventable diseases, to provide feedback coverage in an effort to increase coverage, and to evaluate the effectiveness of programs designed to increase coverage.

How can I learn more about the NIS?

For additional information on the NIS, please call the Immunization Program at 735-7143.

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