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**NEWS RELEASE**



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**ANA Appointed to National Committee Providing Immunization Guidance**  
*ANA Strengthens Nursing Voice on Nation's Premier Panel on Vaccine-Preventable Diseases*

**SILVER SPRING, MD** – The American Nurses Association (ANA) has been selected as one of only two nursing organizations on the only U.S. government committee that makes recommendations for the administration of vaccines to children and adults to control vaccine-preventable diseases.

ANA begins its participation on the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) this June as a non-voting liaison organization that provides immunization expertise. The committee's 15 voting members, named by the secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, provide recommendations to HHS and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on preventable disease-reduction and vaccine safety strategies.

"We're working hard to make registered nurses the champions of immunization," said ANA President Rebecca M. Patton, MSN, RN, CNOR. "We're pleased and excited that the CDC recognizes nurses' immunization expertise and the integral role for nurses in setting immunization policy, educating the public and promoting vaccinations through direct contact with patients."

In partnership with the CDC, ANA is running a two-year initiative aimed at increasing vaccination rates within the community called "Bringing Immunity to Every Community." The program is intended to increase nurses' knowledge and competency in immunization issues and position them as leaders in increasing vaccination rates among the public and health care professionals. The program includes a Web site, <http://www.ANAimmunize.org>, a comprehensive resource for nurses to become competent, educated advocates for immunizations.

**MORE...**

ANA will showcase <http://www.ANAimmunize.org>, and highlight what nurses can do to promote immunizations at the CDC's 44<sup>th</sup> National Immunization Conference April 19-22 in Atlanta.

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*The ANA is the only full-service professional organization representing the interests of the nation's 3.1 million registered nurses through its constituent member nurses associations, its organizational affiliates, and its workforce advocacy affiliate, the Center for American Nurses. The ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting the rights of nurses in the workplace, projecting a positive and realistic view of nursing, and by lobbying the Congress and regulatory agencies on health care issues affecting nurses and the public.*