

NHMA Statement on ACIP Recommendations Regarding Thimerosal in Vaccines

WASHINGTON – June 27, 2025 — The National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA) supports evidence-based public health measures that protect the health of all communities, including Latinos. We are concerned by recent discussions surrounding thimerosal, a preservative used in some vaccines, and the potential impact these discussions could have on public health.

Thimerosal, a form of mercury, has been the subject of disproven claims about its link to autism. Extensive scientific research has debunked these claims. Thimerosal was voluntarily removed from childhood vaccines more than two decades ago, and no vaccines on the pediatric vaccine schedule today contain thimerosal. Ongoing studies continue to affirm that thimerosal is safe in the trace amounts that were previously used.

While we respect the role of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) in shaping U.S. vaccine policy, we believe the recent recommendations to phase out thimerosal in flu vaccines are based on inaccurate information. The overwhelming evidence shows that the benefits of vaccines far outweigh any minimal risk associated with thimerosal. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization have consistently stated that vaccines containing thimerosal are safe.

At NHMA, we remain committed to promoting health equity and ensuring that vulnerable communities, including Latinos, have access to reliable information about vaccines. Vaccines are a critical tool in preventing disease, and it is important that all individuals, particularly in underserved communities, can make informed decisions based on scientific evidence.

We urge health leaders and policymakers to prioritize science-based practices in vaccine policy to protect public health and reduce health disparities.