

the vaccine. Additional data to record are the site and route of administration and evidence that the parent or legal guardian gave informed consent before the immunization was administered. Report any adverse reactions after the administration of a vaccine to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System ([www.vaers.hhs.gov](http://www.vaers.hhs.gov); 1-800-822-7967).

An additional source of vaccine information that must be given to parents (as required by the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act, 1986) before the administration of vaccines is the VIS for the particular vaccine being administered. Practitioners are required by law to fully inform families of the risks and benefits of the vaccines. VISs are designed to provide updated information to the adult vaccinee or parents or legal guardians of children being vaccinated regarding the risks and benefits of each vaccine. The practitioner should answer questions regarding the information in the VIS. VISs are available for the following vaccines: adenovirus, anthrax, tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, MMR, MMRV, IPV, HPV, varicella, Hib, influenza, meningococcal, pneumococcal (13 and 23), rabies, rotavirus, shingles, smallpox, yellow fever, Japanese encephalitis, typhoid, and hepatitis A and B. An updated VIS should be provided, and documentation in the patient's chart should state that the VIS was given and include the publication date of the VIS; this represents **informed consent** once the parent or caregiver gives permission to administer the vaccines. VISs are available from state or local health departments or from the Immunization Action Coalition\* and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.<sup>†</sup>

In response to the concerns of manufacturers, practitioners, and parents of children with serious vaccine-associated injuries, the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986 and the Vaccine Compensation Amendments of 1987 were passed. These laws are designed to provide fair compensation for children who are inadvertently injured and provide greater protection from liability for vaccine manufacturers and providers. (See the *2015 Red Book: Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases* [[American Academy of Pediatrics, 2015](#)] for further details of this program.)

## Communicable Diseases

The incidence of childhood communicable diseases has declined