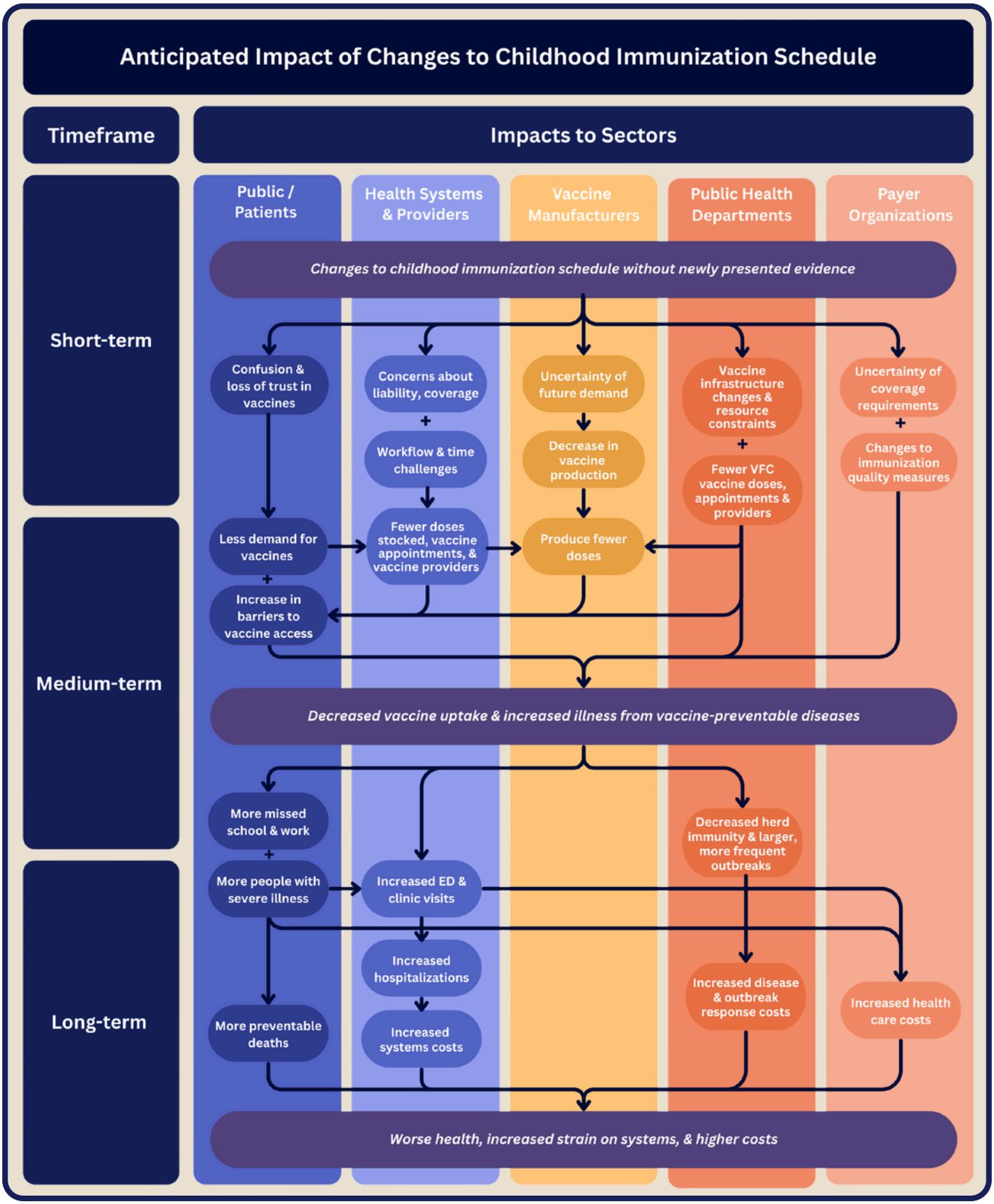
Common Health Coalition

This diagram is intended to display possible cascading impacts resulting from changes to the childhood immunization schedule across patients, providers, manufacturers, public health, and payers over time. It is not intended to be specific to any one vaccine or region in the country.



Disclaimer: this document is for planning purposes only.

Common Health Coalition

What Sectors Can Do:

There are key actions that payer organizations, state leaders, health systems, and providers can take to mitigate these impacts, maintain access, and reinforce trust:

State leaders can affirm that clinicians can follow the evidence-backed schedules from the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Academy of Family Physicians. States can also refer to trusted medical societies or state-based experts in their own vaccine policies.

Public health departments can increase communications to providers and the public to clear up confusion, including provider advisories about the state/locality's recommended schedule.

Payer organizations can reaffirm their commitment to no out-of-pocket costs for these important vaccines, and clearly communicate that to their members. Payers should also continue to report out on quality measures related to vaccines.

Health systems can continue to offer vaccinations and also reinforce that coverage and liability protections remain unchanged at this time, and equip frontline providers with practical tools for patient conversations.

Providers can continue to offer and speak with their patients and families about vaccinations and refer to the recommendations of professional medical societies like the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Academy of Family Physicians.

Notes:

The timeframes of the anticipated impacts differ depending on the specific disease. Decreases in vaccination coverage for illnesses like rotavirus, for example, could impact hospitalization rates in the short term. Seasonal illnesses, like influenza, would have minimal impacts to health systems and the public outside of respiratory virus season.

The impacts to patients and health systems will not be felt in the same ways across the country. Given historic underfunding, rural and low-income communities are likely to face system strain and worse health impacts earlier than areas of the country that have better funded health systems. Similarly, given the growing divide in how states mandate vaccination coverage, impacts may be felt more in some states compared to others.

These materials are provided for general information purposes and do not constitute legal advice. They represent CHC's best understanding of current rules and policies as of the date of publication. No attorney-client relationship exists. No attorney-client relationship is formed by reading, using, or acting upon this content. Anyone who needs legal advice should consult a qualified attorney. The views and opinions expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of the Common Health Coalition's Steering Committee, funders, nor our membership organizations.

The Common Health Coalition has provider resources, including patient conversation guides, available at commonhealthcoalition.org.

info@commonhealthcoalition.org