



IMPORTANT MESSAGE

California Department of Public Health
Immunization Branch
Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program
850 Marina Bay Parkway
Richmond, CA 94804

Toll Free Phone:
877-2GET-VFC (877-243-8832)

Toll Free Fax:
877-FAXX-VFC (877-329-9832)

August 18, 2009

SEASONAL FLU VACCINE AVAILABILITY

Dear VFC Provider,

The VFC Program is gearing up for the upcoming flu season! Here is some information for your practice to prepare for this season:

- The 2009-2010 "Influenza Packet" and detailed ordering instructions will be mailed to enrolled providers early September and will also be posted on our website at www.eziz.org. The packet will include information on vaccine recommendations, product availability, billing information, and the detailed instruction for submitting your 2009-2010 influenza vaccine requests.
- **VACCINE SUPPLY:** As in previous years, our vaccine supply is expected to be received at VFC's national vaccine distributor in multiple shipments: mid to late September and completed by October.
- The VFC Program recognizes the urgency of releasing flu vaccine shortly after it becomes available in order to begin vaccination of patients early in the flu season. We are currently streamlining the process for the submission and processing of vaccine requests to ensure product is shipped shortly after orders are submitted.
- **NEW:** VFC providers will be able to complete their vaccine requests electronically, simply login in eziz.org and submitting their request electronically. Please stay tuned for additional details!
- **H1N1 VACCINE:** Will be available to VFC Providers in addition to seasonal flu. Please ensure your clinic's refrigerator has sufficient storage space to accommodate doses of seasonal and H1N1 flu vaccines along with all your pediatric vaccines. Information on the timing of vaccine availability and the process for requesting doses of this vaccine will be posted on www.eziz.org on 9/1/2009.
- **REMINDER:** All expired or spoiled influenza vaccine must be returned to the VFC Program's distributor prior to the receipt of any influenza vaccine for this season.
- **IMPORTANT:** Please do not submit influenza vaccine requests (utilizing previous season order forms) until notified by VFC. Orders received prior to VFC's notification will not be accepted.

For any questions, please call (877) 243-8832 or visit our website at www.eziz.org

**Would you like to receive VFC communications via e-mail?
Visit our website at www.eziz.org and register to receive electronic updates.**