



IMPORTANT MESSAGE

California Department of Public Health
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IMPORTANT VFC PROGRAM FLU VACCINE SUPPLY UPDATE

Dear VFC Provider,

Seasonal influenza activity has sharply increased in the past several weeks and is now widespread in California. The California VFC Program is encouraging providers to ensure children 6 months of age and older are protected. Vaccination, even after the holiday break, is a good way to make sure patients in your practice are protected! Additional doses of influenza vaccine for VFC-eligible children may be ordered through the VFC Program's Supplemental Flu Ordering system.

Supply Information

Pediatric Flu Vaccine Supply for use in children 6-35 months of age:

- Vaccine demand in this age group is unusually high compared to previous years. Due to this increased demand, VFC vaccine supply for this age group is depleting faster than anticipated. We expect that additional doses from the CDC's influenza vaccine stockpile will become available later this month.
- The main product currently available for ordering for children 6-35 months of age is GSK's FluLaval®. In order to prevent any limitations in our pediatric vaccine supply, we ask that any doses of FluLaval® you order for your VFC-eligible children 6-35 months are used **ONLY** in this age group. Use of this product in children 3-18 years of age may result in inadequate vaccine supply to immunize VFC-eligible infants 6-35 months of age in your practice.
- Large requests for FluLaval® are assessed based on your reported flu vaccine usage and current inventory. If your order is reduced, additional doses can be requested as needed once your practice depletes doses for this product.

Vaccine Supply for use in children 3-18 years of age:

- Adequate VFC vaccine supply is available for this age group, including Fluzone® multi-dose vials (ages 3 years and older), and Flucelvax® (ages 4 years and older).
- The VFC Program's supply of FluLaval® for use in children 3- 18 years of age has been depleted and is no longer available for ordering on MyVFCVaccines.
- Although FluLaval® is licensed for use in children 6 months and older, providers should refrain from ordering this product in the 6-35 months age group and using it in children 3 years and older.
- Providers who need additional flu vaccine doses to immunize VFC-eligible children 3 years and older should place supplemental flu vaccine orders for any of the other VFC flu formulations currently available for this age group.

Vaccine Ordering and Accountability

- Similar to routine VFC non-flu vaccine orders, providers must account for all VFC flu doses received in order to request additional flu vaccine.
- With every supplemental order, you will need: 1) VFC flu vaccine doses administered since your last flu order and 2) the number of VFC flu doses on-hand by lot number.
- Administered doses must also be documented and tracked utilizing a [flu usage log](#), Electronic Health Record (EHR), immunization registry, or similar system.
- VFC flu vaccine doses transferred in or out must be reported in your [MyVFCvaccines](#) account prior to requesting additional flu doses.

Are you not receiving VFC's emailed program letters and communications?

Visit our website at www.eziz.org and log into MyVFCvaccines to check your email address. Also be sure to check your spam folder