



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)

May 16, 2018

VFC Program Updates

Dear VFC Provider,

VFC Customer Service Center Closures:

The VFC Program Customer Service Center will be closed on the following date:

- Monday, May 28, 2018 (Memorial Day Holiday)

Orders will continue to be received during these times and normal business hours will resume after the holiday closure. **TIP:** Upon order submission, please allow up to 15 business days for the processing and delivery of your vaccine request. Make sure to place your vaccine request with sufficient inventory on-hand (3 weeks recommended).

2017 - 2018 Influenza Vaccine Update:

The VFC Program will close supplemental ordering for influenza vaccines on **Friday, May 18, 2018.**

Although this year's flu season is coming to an end, please keep the following information in mind:

- Flu activity continues to decrease, though sporadic activity may continue until the season is over.
- If you have patients 6 months and older in your practice who have not yet received their annual influenza vaccine or who may need their second dose and/or you have children with a long-term health condition like asthma, diabetes and heart disease, please ensure they are fully vaccinated and optimally protected against influenza.
- Check your flu vaccine expiration dates as some doses will expire in late May or June.
- Flu vaccine is good until expiration. Do not remove viable vaccine doses from your storage unit prior to expiration. This will result in preventable negligent vaccine wastage.
- Upon expiration, remove expired doses from your vaccine storage unit immediately. Complete and submit a VFC Return Form and request a return shipment label by logging into your [MyVFCVaccines](https://myvfcvaccines.org) account on www.eziz.org.

Thank you for continuing to make sure VFC-Eligible patients in your practice are protected from vaccine preventable diseases!