



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 31, 2016

VFC Program 2016-17 Influenza Season Update

Dear VFC Provider,

Final allocation confirmations will be emailed to VFC Providers this week and all orders will remain in queue until adequate flu vaccine supply is received at the distributor. The California Vaccines for Children Program expects to receive an initial supply of some influenza products by mid-September. The specific products that will be shipped and exact percentages of your confirmed order allocation will be communicated before orders are processed.

The VFC 2016-17 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Information Letter will be released prior to flu doses shipping.

In preparation to receive vaccine shipments, please:

- **Update your hours of delivery** to ensure that your flu shipment can be delivered to your practice.
 - To view and update your practice's delivery days and times, log-in to your MyVFCVaccines account on eziz.org and then click the "Update Practice Information" link.
 - If your practice will be on vacation and will not be able to receive vaccine shipments, please contact the VFC Customer Service Center at 1-877-243-8832.
- **Prepare adequate space in your vaccine storage unit to receive initial flu vaccine shipments;** make sure received doses are labeled appropriately and placed in pre-designated areas of the storage unit.
 - Ensure all unused and expired products from the previous flu season have been reported to the VFC Program by completing an online return form in your MyVFCVaccines account on eziz.org and that you return the expired doses to VFC's national vaccine distributor.
- **Review your vaccine refrigerator temperature logs** to ensure it is maintaining appropriate temperatures between 35.0°F – 46.0°F (2.0° to 8.0°C).
 - Any inactivated influenza products that are exposed to freezing temperatures cannot be used.

It is expected that multiple subsequent shipments will be received over the next few months to complete the state's pre-booked vaccine supply for the 2016-2017 influenza season. Subsequent shipments for the remaining order balance for these products will be automatically processed and shipped as additional vaccine doses become available.

Providers who did not confirm their initial flu allocations by the confirmation deadline, or those wishing to order additional doses of flu, will still have the opportunity to submit a supplemental vaccine request, once Supplemental Flu Ordering is opened to all providers later in the flu season. VFC will notify you when this occurs.

NOTE: The VFC Customer Service Center will be closed on Monday, September 5, 2016 for the Labor Day Holiday. Normal business hours will resume the following day.