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EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Governor

New online resource for reporting vaccine administration errors - <http://verp.ismp.org/>

October 3, 2012

Dear Healthcare Provider:

Vaccine administration errors (see box below) are common and can potentially reduce vaccine efficacy and safety. However, unless such errors are quantified it is difficult to advocate for vaccine name or labeling changes or other changes that might reduce the possibility of errors. To better understand and prevent such errors, we strongly encourage you to report all vaccine administration errors to <http://verp.ismp.org/>, a new online system sponsored by the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP). This system allows for a confidential method of reporting vaccine administration errors so that they can be tracked and analyzed.

ISMP is a nonprofit, federally-certified patient safety organization (PSO) respected worldwide as the premier resource for medication safety information. ISMP guarantees confidentiality of all information received. ISMP will securely share error data with the federal Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) and, when applicable, with the vaccine manufacturer. When reporting an error, providing your name is optional.

The new system is designed to register errors regardless of whether any harm may have resulted. Please continue to report any adverse events that occur after immunization, whether given correctly or incorrectly, to VAERS at <http://vaers.hhs.gov/esub/index>.

Your participation can help to reduce future errors. Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'John Talarico, D.O.'.

John Talarico, D.O., M.P.H., Chief
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