



Ron Chapman, MD, MPH
Director

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Governor

June 27, 2011

IZB-FY-1011-06

TO: Vaccines for Children (VFC) Providers
FROM: Claudia Aguiluz, VFC Program Coordinator
SUBJECT: 2011-2012 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Ordering Instructions

In preparation for the 2011-2012 influenza season, the California Vaccines for Children Program has begun the initial ordering process for VFC-supplied flu vaccines. VFC's On-line Flu Order Confirmation system is now available on www.eziz.org. Provider influenza orders will be collected in advance of vaccine availability in order to process them, and have them ready for fulfillment soon after vaccine supply becomes available this fall.

This letter will provide details on accessing and confirming flu allocations for this season, as well as submission deadlines. The annual VFC flu letter for this season, which includes information on ACIP's recommendations, dosage and administration, storage and handling and other important information, will be distributed at a later time.

ORDER CONFIRMATION TIMELINE

VFC's On-line Flu Order Confirmation system will be open from **June 27 to July 20, 2011** for providers to log-in, review, modify, and submit confirmed vaccine allocations. **All confirmation of provider allocations must be submitted by July 20, 2011.** Unconfirmed allocations remaining in the system after the deadline will be removed and released into a general vaccine supply available to all providers, on a first-come, first-serve basis, during supplemental flu ordering.

SYSTEM ACCESS AND LOG-IN INFORMATION

Providers may access VFC's On-line Flu Order Confirmation System at www.eziz.org; select the "Flu Order Confirmation" icon. Providers will need their VFC Provider Identification Number (PIN) and practice's Zip Code to log-in.

Once logged-in, providers will notice a new page titled: MyVFCVACCINES. This new page is VFC's new access hub for program-specific applications. Through this site, providers may review and update the practice's contact information and access influenza allocations. Around mid-summer 2011, providers will also have access to On-line Vaccine Ordering and will be able to submit all VFC vaccine requests, report any return or transfers of VFC vaccines, and complete annual provider recertifications directly through this site.

VACCINE ALLOCATIONS

Allocated Influenza Vaccine Doses

The total doses of influenza vaccine allocated to each actively enrolled provider are based on:

- 1) The total doses received by the practice during the preceding flu season and,
- 2) VFC vaccine supply expected this season.

Sites without a history of influenza vaccine distribution in the preceding year (i.e., newly enrolled providers) will have limited allocations based on selected pediatric vaccine distribution. Providers may contact the VFC Customer Service Center or a Field Representative if the practice's population has significantly increased since the enrollment date.

If additional doses are needed in excess of allocation, providers will have the opportunity to request additional doses during supplemental ordering later in the season.

Reviewing, Modifying, and Confirming Allocated Doses

Providers must confirm allocated doses by **July 20th, 2011**. Unconfirmed allocations after July 20th, 2011 will be removed from the system and made available for general ordering during our supplemental ordering period.

There are four simple steps to complete this process:

1) **Review of practice information and shipping address.**

Upon log-in, practices will be prompted to review this information and make any changes as necessary.

2) **Review and modification of allocations.**

An allocation table displays total allocated flu doses for VFC-eligibles in two age groups and indicates specific brand allocation breakdowns. Please review information and edit as necessary—keeping in mind that the system will allow you to either confirm your allocations or reduce doses for each age group.

- Children 6-35 months of age. Confirm doses for this age group by entering allocated doses (or desired lesser amount) in the last column of the allocation table. Doses requested cannot exceed total allocation for this age group.
- Children 3-18 years of age. Confirm doses and brand allocation breakdown for this age group by entering allocated doses (or desired amount) within each brand in the last column of the allocation table. Providers may increase or decrease doses within each brand, as long as the total doses requested among the 3 brands do not exceed the TOTAL age group allocation.

NOTE: When confirming your brand allocations, keep in mind that FluMist[®] (MedImmune) doses can also be used in healthy children two years of age and older. Preservative-free Fluarix[®] (GSK) is only available in single dose pre-filled syringes. Keep your vaccine storage unit's available space in mind when selecting this product.

3) Preview confirmed allocations.

A preview page will display total doses confirmed for the each of the two age groups. The preview page will also display the clinic's brand allocation breakdown request. If you need to make any changes, you may go back using the "back" button to adjust your numbers.

IMPORTANT: VFC will review allocation requests and will modify and approve them based on available vaccine supply. VFC will e-mail approved brand allocation requests in late July. The brand allocation information submitted this season will also be used for pre-booking the state's overall influenza vaccine supply for the 2012-2013 season.

4) Submit your request and receive instant confirmation for your records.

If no changes are necessary to the allocations, click the "submit" button to submit the request to VFC. The system will generate an instant confirmation to print for the clinic's records. It will also e-mail a confirmation to the clinic's provider of record and order contact person.

All confirmed allocations will remain in the queue until vaccine supplies are received at VFC's national vaccine distributor. VFC will notify all providers via fax and e-mail when products are received and delivery of approved orders begins.

2011-2012 VFC INFLUENZA PRODUCTS

For this coming flu season, VFC has changed the overall supply of products for the immunization of children 3-18 years of age. Overall doses of flu vaccine in multi-dose flu vials have been reduced and doses of preservative-free (single dose syringe) products have increased. This shift in vaccine supply is reflected in provider allocations.

Products shipped to VFC providers may vary, depending on supply availability and approved brand allocation breakdown for each clinic. Below is a listing of all influenza products that may be received by providers.

Brand	Manufacturer	Packaging	Age Group Indication
Fluzone [®] PF Pediatric Dose	Sanofi Pasteur	10 pack – single dose syringes	6-35 months
Fluzone [®]	Sanofi Pasteur	10 dose vial	3-18 years (including pregnant teens) FluMist may be used in healthy children 2-18 yrs.
Fluarix [®] PF	GlaxoSmithKline (GSK)	10 pack – single dose syringes	
FluMist, Live, Attenuated Intranasal Vaccine	MedImmune	10 pack-single dose spray	

NOTE: Age group indications differ from the product's insert indications. Age indications listed above are based on VFC eligibility criteria. Products and doses available are for the immunization of VFC-eligibles under 19 years of age only. Doses of VFC-supplied influenza vaccine CANNOT be used in non-VFC eligible patients.

VACCINE SHIPMENTS

Influenza vaccine supplies for all different manufacturers traditionally arrive at VFC's national vaccine distributor in multiple shipments throughout the season. Therefore, it is likely that providers will also receive allocated vaccine supplies in multiple shipments.

Once VFC has shipped your clinic's initial shipment, our system will keep track of the remaining balance in your allocation. VFC will automatically ship doses to your practice as vaccine supplies become available.

VFC will notify you via FAX and e-mail when products are received at VFC's vaccine distributor and delivery of approved orders begins. Weekly supply and order processing updates will be posted on the Vaccine Order Status page on www.eziz.org.

RETURN OF UNUSED VIALS OF INFLUENZA VACCINE RECEIVED 2010-2011

All doses of influenza vaccine received during the 2010-2011 flu season will expire on June 30th, 2011 (except FluMist doses which may have an earlier expiration date). VFC providers must remove all expired inventory from their vaccine storage unit and return all expired or spoiled influenza doses (including vials, syringes, and nasal sprayer packages) to VFC's national vaccine distributor, McKesson Specialty.

To return vaccines:

- 1) Complete a VFC Return and Transfer Form, and make a copy for your records.
- 2) Fax a copy to the VFC Program at 877-FAXX-VFC (877-329-9832).
- 3) Enclose the original form in the package with the expired vaccines you are returning. When returning your vaccines, please keep doses in their original packaging and use a container in which you receive your normal vaccine shipments. Clearly label the outside of the shipping container "Non-viable vaccine enclosed".
- 4) You may contact VFC to request a return label for your box.

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions, please call your VFC Field Representative or the VFC Program at: 877-243-8832 (877-2GET-VFC). You can also visit our website at www.eziz.org.

cc: CDPH Immunization Branch Field Representatives
Local Health Officers
Local Health Department Immunization Coordinators
Local Health Department CHDP Program Directors
Tanya Homman, Acting Chief, Medi-Cal Managed Care Division, DHCS
Robert Dimand, Acting Chief, Children Medical Services Branch, DHCS
Sherie Smalley, M.D., Medi-Cal Policy, Medi-Cal Managed Care, DHCS
Susan McClair, M.D., Medi-Cal Policy, Medi-Cal Managed Care, DHCS
Shabbir Ahmad, D.V.M., M.S., Ph.D., Acting Chief, Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Program, CDPH
Shelley Rouillard, Deputy Director, Benefits and Quality Monitoring Division, MRMIB
Emmee Nguyen, Benefits and Quality Monitoring Division, MRMIB

Jill Young, Benefits and Quality Monitoring, MRMIB

Neal Kohatsu, M.D., M.P.H., Medi-Cal Policy, Medi-Cal Benefits, Waiver Analysis, and Rates Division, DHCS

Laura Ann Halliday, M.D., Medi-Cal Policy, Medi-Cal Benefits, Waiver Analysis, and Rates Division, DHCS

Alan Morita, Pharm. D., Medi-Cal Pharmacy Policy Branch, DHCS and CDPH

Jill Abramson, M.D., M.P.H., Children Medical Services Branch, DHCS