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DATE: July 23, 2014
TO: Vaccines for Children (VFC) Providers
FROM: Carol Glaser, M.P.V.M, M.D., M.P.H., Acting Chief *Carol A. Glaser, M.D.*
Immunization Branch
SUBJECT: 2014-2015 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Ordering Instructions

In preparation for the 2014-2015 influenza seasons, the California Vaccines for Children Program has begun preparations for the confirmation of VFC influenza vaccine doses for the upcoming season. VFC's On-line Flu Order Confirmation system will be available from July 24, 2014 to August 7, 2014 for providers to log-in, review, modify, and submit confirmed vaccine allocations.

Unconfirmed allocations remaining in the system after August 7, 2014 will be released into the supplemental ordering vaccine supply, available to all providers on a first-come, first-serve basis during supplemental flu ordering.

Providers may access VFC's On-line Flu Order Confirmation System at www.eziz.org. Once logged in to the clinic's "MYVFCVaccines" account, the "Flu Order Confirmation" icon will be available for accessing the clinic's initial allocated doses.

KEY CHANGES FOR THE 2014-2015 VACCINE ORDER PROCESS

Reporting of Unused Expired Doses

As part of the order confirmation process, providers will be required to report the number of unused and expired influenza doses for each product allocated during the 2013-2014 season. Make sure to remove any expired doses from your refrigerator and submit a VFC Return form through your "MyVFCVaccines" account. Please complete this report **prior** to confirming your new flu allocations.

Consolidated Order Confirmation Timeline

Once the on-line flu order confirmation process begins, providers will have 2 weeks to review and confirm allocated doses. Please make sure clinic staff members responsible for confirming doses are aware of this timeline to make sure doses are confirmed by the August 7th deadline.

Reducing Influenza Vaccine Waste

In order to prevent unnecessary vaccine waste at the end of each influenza season, initial allocations will be reduced for providers with a significant number of unused doses from the preceding season. Should additional doses be needed, frequent supplemental orders may be submitted once supplemental ordering becomes available.

Prior to confirming allocated doses for your clinic, we encourage your practice to look at vaccine usage in the preceding season, discuss your vaccination plans for the coming season, and confirm doses accordingly. Once doses are confirmed and approved for each practice, VFC automatically process them, as supply becomes available. Once processed, these orders will ship to your practice, and may not be readily cancelled.

Vaccine Usage and Inventory Reporting

As with all other VFC-supplied vaccines, providers are required to track vaccine doses administered (using a log, registry, or similar system). Doses administered must be reported to the VFC program as part of the submission process for supplemental vaccine ordering. Additionally, starting this influenza year, all providers will be required to report the number of influenza vaccine doses administered at key points throughout the season (additional information about reporting usage will be included in 2014-2015 Influenza Program Letter).

To assist your practice report this information, providers may use the Influenza Vaccine Usage log.

VACCINE ALLOCATIONS

The number of flu vaccine doses allocated to each VFC provider is based on 1) the total number of doses for each product received in the preceding season, 2) the number of unused doses, and 3) available vaccine supply pre-booked for distribution to California VFC providers.

The system will display allocated products by brand for VFC eligible children in two age categories. Providers may request a shift in allocated doses (increase or decrease doses within each allocated brand) for children 3-18 years of age. However, the total doses requested among the 3 brands cannot exceed the TOTAL doses allocated within the age group.

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

IMPORTANT: VFC will review allocation requests and will modify and approve them based on available vaccine supply. VFC will e-mail the final approved brand allocation requests for your practice mid-August 2014.

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.

2014-2015 VFC INFLUENZA PRODUCTS

Below is a listing of all influenza products available through VFC.

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

VACCINE SHIPMENTS

Influenza vaccine supplies for all different manufacturers arrive at VFC's national vaccine distributor in multiple shipments throughout the season. Therefore, providers receive allocated vaccine doses 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. Please make sure you have adequate space in your vaccine refrigerator to accommodate shipped doses.

E-mail notifications are sent to providers a week prior to shipping vaccines. Once orders are confirmed and submitted for fulfillment, these CANNOT be cancelled.

Shipments of flu vaccines to your practice will be tracked on your MyVFCVaccines account. Log in to your account to view your shipping history and shipping logs.

VFC Influenza Program Letter and ACIP Recommendations

The annual VFC Influenza Program letter including detailed information for this season's ACIP influenza vaccination recommendations, product dosage and administration, storage and handling and other important information will be released once recommendations are published by CDC.

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: Local Health Department Immunization Coordinators