



MARK B HORTON, MD, MSPH
Director

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



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

July 22, 2010

IZB-FY-1011-01

TO: Vaccines for Children (VFC) Providers

FROM: Robert Schechter, MD, Acting Chief *RS*
Center for Infectious Diseases
Division of Communicable Disease Control, Immunization Branch

SUBJECT: 2010-2011 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Ordering Instructions

During last year's influenza season, the California VFC Program introduced an on-line ordering system that permits enrolled providers to confirm allocated vaccine doses of influenza vaccines, submit orders electronically to VFC, and expedite vaccine delivery. The system drastically reduced processing time, enabling the California VFC Program to rapidly fulfill confirmed orders once inventory was received at VFC's national distributor.

This year we will be requesting you confirm your allocated doses in advance of vaccine availability. VFC's On-Line Flu Order Confirmation System will be available on eziz.org on July 22, 2010, and your orders must be confirmed by August 18, 2010. This will allow us to fulfill confirmed orders shortly after vaccine doses are received. It will also allow us to offer supplemental ordering much sooner than in previous years.

Allocated Influenza Vaccine Doses

Allocated doses are based on the total doses received by your clinic (individual to each PIN) during the preceding season, with an increase added in anticipation of higher immunization coverage in children ages 5-18 years of age.

Due to the uncertainty in the timing of specific vaccine product/brand availability (including the number of doses, number of shipments, and shipment dates for all influenza products arriving at VFC's national distributor), influenza vaccine allocations are based on age-groups/patient categories, rather than specific brand names or manufacturers. This system allows vaccine orders to be quickly fulfilled so that patient influenza vaccination is not delayed due to a particular vaccine brand not being available.

Allocated doses for newly enrolled providers, or providers who did not receive influenza doses last season, will be based on usage of select pediatric and adolescent vaccines.

Log-in in the System

You will be able to access the site through eziz and log-in by using your **clinic's PIN and zip code**. Providers unable to access the system may contact the VFC Program for assistance.

Upon log-in, you will be able to view your clinic's allocated supply of vaccine, verify the request and submit the order electronically to VFC.

Confirming Your Clinic's Allocated Doses

The 2010-2011 Influenza Vaccine On-line Ordering system will be available for order confirmation from July 22, 2010 through August 18, 2010. Providers wishing to receive influenza doses must confirm pre-allocated doses by **August 18, 2010**.

Your site **MUST** log in, review, verify or edit allocated doses, and submit your confirmed order in order to receive vaccines. **IMPORTANT:** If you do not confirm your doses, they will be removed from the system and made available for general ordering during our supplemental ordering period.

The system will only allow you to confirm or decrease allocated doses. If you want more doses overall, or more doses of a specific type of vaccine, you will have the opportunity to order additional doses during the supplemental ordering period.

Upon order confirmation, VFC will e-mail you an order confirmation. Please keep this accessible in the event you need to call VFC and inquire about your order. Please keep in mind that confirmed orders will be held until vaccine supplies arrive at VFC's national vaccine distributor.

2010-2011 VFC Influenza Vaccine Products

Products shipped to your practice may vary, depending on supply availability. Below is a listing of all influenza products that may be received by your practice.

Brand	Manufacturer	Packaging	Age Group
Fluzone® PF	Sanofi Pasteur	10 pack - 1 dose syringes	6-35 months
Fluzone®	Sanofi Pasteur	10 dose vials	3-18 years
Fluzone® PF	Sanofi Pasteur	10 pack - 1 dose syringes	3-18 years (Prioritized for pregnant teens)
Fluzone® PF	Sanofi Pasteur	10 pack - 1 dose vials	3-18 years (Prioritized for pregnant teens)
FluMist Virus Vaccine Live, Intranasal	Medimmune Vaccines, Inc.	Intranasal Spray 10 pack-1 dose	Healthy 2-18 years
Afluria	Merck	10 dose vials	At least 9-18 years

July 22, 2010

Note: Products and doses available are for the immunization of VFC-eligible patients only. Doses of VFC-supplied influenza vaccine may not be used in non-VFC eligible patients.

Vaccine Shipments

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

Once we have shipped your clinic's initial shipment, our system will keep track of the remaining balance in your allocation, and VFC will automatically ship the remainder of your allocated doses to your practice as vaccine supplies become available. There is no need to re-submit a supplemental vaccine request for the remainder balance in your allocation. You only need to submit a supplemental order if you need more doses than in your original allocation.

The timing of flu vaccine availability is still unknown. We will notify you via FAX and e-mail when products are received at VFC's vaccine distributor and delivery of approved orders begins.

Influenza Program Letter

VFC's annual Influenza Program letter, containing specific information on this flu season's flu vaccine composition, ACIP vaccination recommendations, influenza vaccine dosing and schedules, contraindications, VFC flu vaccine eligibility, billing information, and provider-specific materials, will be issued once ACIP recommendations have been published.

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

Enclosures:

cc: CDPH Immunization Branch Field Representatives
Local Health Officers
Local Health Department Immunization Coordinators
Local Health Department CHDP Program Directors
Vanessa Baird, Chief, Medi-Cal Managed Care Division, DHCS
Luis Rico, Acting Chief, Children Medical Services Branch, DHCS
Michael Farber, M.D., Chief Medical Officer, Medi-Cal Managed Care, DHCS
Susan McClair, M.D., Medi-Cal Managed Care, DHCS
Shabbir Ahmad, D.V.M., M.S., Ph.D., Acting Chief, Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Program, CDPH
Laurie Weaver, Chief, Office of Family Planning, CDPH
Villita Lewis, Deputy Director, Benefits and Quality Monitoring, MRMIB
Lilia Coleman, Benefits and Quality Monitoring, MRMIB
Steve Shih, M.D., Medi-Cal Benefits Branch, DHCS
Craig Yamada, M.D., Medi-Cal Benefits Branch, DHCS
Kathy Chance, M.D., Children Medical Services Branch, DHCS