



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



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TO: Vaccines for Children (VFC) Providers

FROM: Sarah Royce, MD, MPH, Chief 
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SUBJECT: 2018-2019 Supplemental Influenza Vaccine Ordering

California's Vaccines for Children (VFC) Supplemental Ordering system for 2018-2019 influenza vaccine is now available through MyVFCVaccines and will remain open as long as supplies remain. Below is a list of influenza vaccines currently available for supplemental ordering. Additional products may become available.

Age Group	Product	Presentation	Manufacturer	NDC Code
6 months - 18 years	Fluarix® ^	0.5mL single-dose syringe, 10 pack^	GSK	58160-0898-52
	FluLaval® ^	0.5mL single-dose syringe, 10 pack^	GSK	19515-0909-52
3-18 years	Fluzone® ^	5mL multi-dose vial	Sanofi	49281-0629-15
4-18 years	Flucelvax® +	0.5mL single-dose syringe, 10 pack	Seqirus	70461-0318-03

^ Preservative-free vaccines should be prioritized for administration to pregnant teens under 18 years of age but may also be used in children 3-18 years of age. According to the Health and Safety Code Section 124172, pregnant women or children younger than three years old may only receive vaccine doses that contain trace levels or no mercury.

+ Flucelvax® may not be used in patients younger than 4 years of age.

ORDERING CONSIDERATIONS

Influenza vaccination is routinely recommended for all children and youth ages 6 months through 18 years of age. Utilize every opportunity to vaccinate your patients against influenza and other vaccine-preventable diseases throughout influenza season.

In order to reduce missed opportunities for vaccination, proactively recommend influenza vaccination to all your patients at every visit throughout influenza season.

Children < 5 years of age, especially under 2 years of age are at the highest risk of influenza disease and its complications.

All children aged 6 months through 8 years who are recommended for two doses should receive their first dose as soon as possible after vaccine becomes available and the second dose at least 4 weeks after the first dose. When checking flu vaccine inventory, keep in mind outreach efforts for children needing their second dose.

Although the volume of doses for children 6 to 35 months varies by vaccine formulation, the recommendations for the number of doses do not depend on the formulation; e.g., a child 6 months of age this autumn is recommended to receive two doses, regardless of whether the formulation used for the first dose was a volume of 0.25 mL or 0.5 mL.

ORDER GUIDELINES

Who Can Place Supplemental Orders?

Supplemental ordering is available to providers who have received 100% of their initial doses for the products listed above and who need additional doses to immunize VFC-eligible children. Providers who did not submit their initial order confirmations to the VFC Program by the August 22, 2018 deadline may also submit flu vaccine requests during supplemental flu ordering.

Verification of Clinic Hours/Availability to Receive Doses Ordered

Please ensure that you can store all of the doses you request, as supplemental flu orders are shipped in full and cannot be canceled once sent for fulfillment. An e-mail notification is sent to the practice's Vaccine Coordinator and Back-Up Coordinator upon processing of the order.

To ensure successful delivery, please confirm that shipping days and hours listed on your MyVFCVaccines account are up to date. If your clinic will be closed for any reason, call the VFC Customer Service Center at 877-243-8832 as soon as possible.

Products that can be Ordered

Immunization should never be delayed due to the unavailability of a specific influenza vaccine brand. Providers primarily seeing adolescent patients were allocated Flucelvax[®] during the initial ordering phase. Their supplemental orders are also limited to Flucelvax[®]. All other providers may order any product, even if it differs from products received in initial shipments.

Accountability

Providers must account for all VFC flu doses received in order to request additional flu vaccine, similar to routine VFC orders of non-flu vaccines. VFC flu vaccine doses

administered since the last order and the number of doses on-hand by lot number must be reported during supplemental orders.

The total number of doses administered in comparison to doses shipped and transferred will be considered in the order submission process. Administered doses must be documented and tracked utilizing a vaccine administration log, Electronic Health Record (EHR), immunization registry, or similar system. VFC doses transferred in from or out to a VFC Provider must be reported on an online transfer form in your MyVFCVaccines account prior to requesting supplemental flu doses.

Administration logs must be made available upon request by your VFC Field Representative. A sample of the VFC Program's [Vaccine Usage log](#) was included in your clinic's first flu vaccine shipment and is also at www.eziz.org. Doses administered and doses on-hand must be reported to the VFC Program with each order.

Frequency of Orders

The frequency of ordering in the supplemental ordering system is limited to allow practices to utilize inventory before reordering additional doses and for the VFC Program to process orders.

We encourage your practice to submit more frequent and smaller supplemental orders, rather than one large order, during 2018-2019 flu season. This will minimize the number of unused doses at the end of the season due to expiration and potential losses should your refrigerators malfunction. It will also prevent overcrowding and ensure adequate airflow in your refrigerators.

Order Limits

All initial orders of 2018-2019 influenza vaccine were guided by each clinic's reported usage of routine pediatric and adolescent vaccines. If your request for supplemental doses exceeds your administration of routine vaccines, you may submit a brief justification within the supplemental flu vaccine order form.

VFC ELIGIBILITY

As with all other VFC-supplied vaccines, VFC influenza vaccine doses may only be used for VFC-eligible patients 6 months through 18 years of age. VFC vaccine may not be administered to privately-insured patients or adult patients 19 years of age and older.

Borrowing between vaccine supplies is not allowed. Giving privately-purchased flu doses to VFC patients or giving VFC flu doses to privately-insured patients may constitute fraud or abuse of VFC-supplied vaccines and is prohibited.

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions, please call your VFC Field Representative or the VFC Customer Service Center at 877-2GET-VFC (877-243-8832), or visit www.eziz.org.