VFC Program Update

Transition of Flu Seasons

As we wrap-up this current flu season and begin to gear up for the 2021-2022 season, the VFC Program closed flu vaccine ordering for the 2020-2021 season on Friday, June 11, 2021. Any remaining flu doses in inventory are still viable until expiration. Please remember these key points:

- Take every opportunity to assess the immunization status of all incoming patients, including flu vaccines. If you still have doses on-hand and have patients under 8 years of age who have not yet received their second dose, recommend they receive it during their next scheduled immunization appointment before the end of this season.
- Do not remove viable vaccine doses from your storage unit prior to expiration. This will result in preventable negligent vaccine wastage.
- Upon expiration, remove expired doses from your vaccine storage unit immediately. Complete and submit a VFC Return Form and request a return shipment label by logging into your MyVFCVaccines account.
Do not return any expired private vaccine doses, broken vials or syringes, or open multi-dose vials.

Each return shipping label requested in the Return Form is associated with that specific Return ID. Therefore, ONLY ship doses listed in the corresponding Return ID/Form.

Return shipping labels are only valid for 30 days; ensure expired flu doses are returned to McKesson as soon as possible.

Coming soon! In July, we will send additional details on the next phase of the upcoming VFC 2021-22 flu season.

**Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) Events**

With summer here, fire season is just around the corner. Be prepared!

- If your site does not have a generator, we recommend having a partner facility to move vaccine to if power is lost. (The partner facility may need to be out of the immediate area.)
- Make sure your Vaccine Management Plan, including the emergency section, is up to date.
- Keep transport containers/data loggers on hand and ready to go. Some containers may be qualified to hold appropriate temperature for a long period of time.
- As soon as you hear there will be a power shutoff, start planning and determine if you may need to move the vaccine.
- Contact your local health department or the VFC Customer Service Center if you need assistance.
Customer Service Center Closures

The VFC Customer Service Center will be closed on the following day:

- Monday, July 5, 2021 (in observance of Independence Day)

Orders will continue to be received throughout this closure. Normal business hours will resume on the following day, Tuesday, July 6.

Thank you,

California Department of Public Health | Immunization Branch
Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program
850 Marina Bay Parkway
Richmond, CA 94804
Phone: 877-2GET-VFC (877-243-8832)
Fax: 877-FAXX-VFC (877-329-9832)
Email: MyVFCVaccines@cdph.ca.gov