



# Your VFC October Flu Order Progress Report to Arrive Soon!

Dear VFC Provider,

We will be sending you soon your practice's ***October Flu Vaccine Ordering Progress Report***. We encourage you to share it with your colleagues, including medical assistants, clinicians, and quality improvement (QI) staff. Your *Flu Vaccine Ordering Progress Report* will show progress toward your VFC Flu Vaccine Target as of October 24, 2021. This is your first check-in of the current flu season and like last season, we'll be checking back again in January 2022. Finally, we will send your *End-of-Season Report* in July 2022, indicating the percentage of your target met and subsequent rating (Excellent, Very Good, Good, Needs Improvement). VFC providers who achieve an "Excellent" rating by June 30, 2022 will be recognized on EZIZ.org. For your convenience, you can also view your reports in your [MyVFCvaccines](#) account.

## Track your progress towards your VFC Flu Order Target

As a refresher, your "*VFC Flu Vaccine Target*" is our estimate of the number of flu vaccine doses your practice needs to immunize and protect your VFC-eligible patients. Your target is based on the number of VFC-eligible patients your practice immunized against all other routine pediatric vaccines during the past year, as reported on your VFC vaccine orders.

If you are close to reaching your VFC flu vaccine target, congratulations! If not, there is still plenty of time to implement key strategies into your VFC [Flu Action Plan](#). ***This year, during the pandemic, COVID-19 vaccination brings challenges and opportunities to bring more patients (who are age-eligible) in to vaccinate them against both flu and COVID-19.***

## **Use the Flu Progress Report Data, Flu Action Plan, and Gather your Team!**

To date, data from your VFC peers suggest that those who use the *VFC Flu Action Plan* and their *Flu Progress Reports* are more likely to achieve an “excellent” flu order rating! We'll report back from the Fall 2021 *VFC Flu Activities Survey* on how many VFC clinics are using these tools this season. If you are looking to improve your last season's rating, consider selecting 2-3 Flu Action Plan key strategies. These could be (1) routinely recommend flu vaccine—don't ask parents if they want their child to be immunized, (2) identify patients still due for flu vaccine, and (3) recall patients due for their first or second dose of flu vaccine.

## **Use the Report as a Catalyst; 1-2 incremental steps will empower your team!**

**We strongly recommend that you share your Flu Progress Report and VFC Flu Target with your clinic decision-makers in charge of ordering flu vaccine.**

- There is still time to order and administer more VFC flu vaccine, along with other routinely recommended immunizations for your patients!
- Every visit is an opportunity to protect your patients against flu.
- If you are concerned about having too much flu vaccine in the refrigerator, keep in mind that you can order as little as 10 doses per week.
- Recommend and administer flu vaccine until the last dose expires, usually in June.

We are confident that taking even small steps today will result in vast improvement tomorrow. Our VFC team supports you in protecting California's kids against influenza! This is an extraordinary time to practice medicine. We thank you for the many extra efforts you and your team are making to protect your patients and staff during the pandemic.

Sincerely