



# VFC Program Update

## Thank you!

As a healthcare provider and a VFC Program participant helping to keep California's children protected from vaccine preventable diseases, you were already a hero to us. But now, more than ever, we want express our admiration and gratitude to you and your staff. Thank you for the work you are doing every day, providing essential health care services in your community.

## 2020-2021 Flu Pre-book Confirmation E-mails Coming Soon!

Flu Pre-book Confirmation emails will be sent out to VFC Providers who pre-booked doses for the 2020-2021 flu season earlier this year, completing phase 1 of the 2020-2021 VFC flu vaccine order process. The communication will include your practice's total approved doses (by brands) of influenza vaccines for the entire 2020-2021 influenza season. If your practice did not submit a pre-book, you will be allocated doses based on available flu vaccine supply.

Final pre-booked products for CA's VFC Program were based on overall provider brand preference and number of doses requested during the pre-book period. These include:

- Inactivated, Quadrivalent, No Preservative, **0.5 mL Single-Dose Syringes, (6 months to 18 years)**
  - **Fluarix<sup>®</sup>, GSK**
  - **FluLaval<sup>®</sup>, GSK**
  - **Fluzone<sup>®</sup>, Sanofi**
- Live Attenuated, Quadrivalent, No Preservative, **0.2 mL single dose intranasal sprayer, (2 -18 years)**
  - **Flumist<sup>®</sup>, AstraZeneca**
- Inactivated, Quadrivalent, No Preservative, **0.5 mL Single-Dose Syringes, (4 - 18 years)**
  - **Flucelvax<sup>®</sup>, Seqirus**

**Next Steps:** In July, we will launch Phase 2 of the VFC flu vaccine order process where you will confirm the quantity of your initial flu shipment once supply becomes available at VFC's national vaccine distribution center in the fall.

## **Importance of Temperature Monitoring**

Temperature monitoring is an important activity, even during modified clinic operations resulting from COVID-19. It ensures that vaccine supply has been stored within recommended temperatures, and is readily available to immunize patients coming into your practice. Many clinics are operating under modified clinic operations, and different staff may be assisting in temperature monitoring. Make sure they are familiar with how to operate your practice's data loggers, download data, and review the data. Our [VFC trainings](#), can help bring new staff up to speed with temperature monitoring and vaccine storage and handling processes in your practice.

## **If Clinic is Reopening After Temporary Closure**

As a result of concerns about COVID-19, some clinics have closed their practices temporarily. In doing so, vaccines have either been transported to another location when feasible, or remained at the clinic location while the data logger is continuing to record temperatures.

Once your clinic reopens, ensure that you complete the following steps before using any vaccines:

1. Download your data logger report to determine if vaccine temperatures have been within range during the entire duration of your clinic closure.
2. Report any temperature excursions to the Storage and Handling Online Triage System (SHOTS) on your [MyVFCvaccines](#) page and follow guidance given by the SHOTS system.
3. Continue to document temperatures on your [VFC Temperature Logs](#).
4. Update your delivery times on your [MyVFCvaccines](#) page to ensure vaccine shipments can be delivered during open clinic hours.
5. Place a vaccine order if necessary and complete a return form for any expired or spoiled vaccines.

## Ordering

VFC vaccine ordering is still open! There have not been any delays in fulfillment and delivery of orders with VFC's national vaccine distributor thus far.

As you place your next order, consider the expected patient volume based on modified clinic operation and staffing, and your inventory on hand. You do not need to place an order if you have sufficient doses on hand. However, if you are planning on increasing appointments scheduled, adjust your future orders accordingly, and make a note on your VFC order.

**Important Reminder!** VFC will request written temperature logs be submitted along with your vaccine order. Prevent a delay in the processing of your vaccine order by remembering to grab your manual temperature logs after you have completed your vaccine inventory and upload them when you submit your vaccine request.

## VFC Eligibility

Eligibility requirements for the receipt of VFC supplied vaccines, including eligibility categories, screening and documentation, remain unchanged. Make sure modified workflows in your practice (i.e. drive-thru immunizations clinics) include steps to meet these requirements.

Thank you,



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