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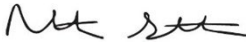


GAVIN NEWSOM  
Governor

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TO: California Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program Providers

FROM: Robert Schechter, M.D., Chief   
Center for Infectious Diseases  
Division of Communicable Disease Control, Immunization Branch

SUBJECT: Unannounced Storage and Handling Visits

To help ensure that children are being fully protected by properly handled vaccines, the California VFC Program is required by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to conduct unannounced storage and handling assessment site visits to providers enrolled in the California Vaccines for Children Program, who consent to participating in these visits as part of the [VFC Provider Agreement](#).

Routine VFC Compliance Visits are coordinated in advance with key practice staff. In contrast, storage and handling assessment site visits are unannounced and unscheduled. Any VFC Provider may be selected to receive an unannounced visit. During such visits, a VFC Program Representative will assess proper storage and handling of the vaccines, check the temperature ranges of vaccine storage units, and review temperature monitoring documentation.

Failure to comply with an unannounced visit required by CDC may result in the loss of privileges to order vaccines through the VFC Program. Please ensure that reception and other staff are aware of this requirement and the possibility of being visited. If you have questions, please contact the VFC Program, 877-2GET-VFC (877-243-8832).

