

## Vaccines for Children Provider Updates - April 16, 2015

### Vaccine Updates

#### HPV - Gardasil®9:

Providers may select HPV 9 as their preference during the week of April 27. As a reminder, preferences must be updated PRIOR to submitting your end of the month inventory counts. Only items selected as an ordering preference will be available from the manage orders screen.

#### Single Dose Vaccines Available:

Providers may order the following vaccines in increments of 1 dose as needed – TD, MenHibrix, and Pneumovax 23. Order requests are subject to approval by VFC staff.

#### Additional Vaccine

**Requests:** Requests that exceed 30 doses above the amount presumed needed require a written justification explaining the increased need and approval by the Deputy Director or VFC Coordinator.

### Program Updates

#### New ACIP Recommendations

During its February 2015 meeting, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended 9-valent human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine as one of three HPV vaccines that can be used for routine vaccination.

ACIP recommends that routine HPV vaccination be initiated at age 11 or 12 years. The vaccination series can be started beginning at age 9 years. Vaccination is also recommended for females aged 13 through 26 years and for males aged 13 through 21 years who have not been vaccinated previously or who have not completed the 3-dose series. Males aged 22 through 26 years may be vaccinated.

Vaccination of females is recommended with 2vHPV, 4vHPV (as long as this formulation is available), or 9vHPV. Vaccination of males is recommended with 4vHPV (as long as this formulation is available) or 9vHPV.

Click the link below to view the entire ACIP recommendation:

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6411a3.htm>

Click on the link below to review the newly released HPV Gardasil® 9 Vaccine Information Statement:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/hpv-gardasil-9.html>

#### Upcoming Webinar

*Human Papillomavirus Vaccine*

*Beyond the Recommendations – Assess - Don't Guess!*

Tuesday, April 28, 2015

12:00pm – 1:00pm

Intended Audience include: Pediatricians, Physician Assistants, Nurse Practitioners, Nursing Staff, Medical Assistants, and other health care professionals.

Upon completion of this program the attendee shall be able to:

- Discuss recent ACIP recommendations and opportunities to vaccinate
- Describe Georgia's current HPV vaccine coverage results
- Recall the importance of HPV provider recommendation – a must!
- Discuss the Case study: Operationalizing the recommendation & successful outcomes

Registration information for this webinar will be distributed once it becomes available.

### **Flu Season Pre-Book 2015-2016**

The deadline for the 2015 VFC Influenza Pre-Book has passed. If you missed the deadline, you may submit your wait list request via the link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2015VFCFLUWL>

This survey should only be completed by providers who did not submit a request prior to the February 16th deadline but wish to receive influenza vaccines for this upcoming season. Submissions to this survey will be added to our 2015-2016 VFC Influenza Vaccine Wait List.

Fulfillment of wait listed requests will begin after all pre-booked requests have been satisfied or supply for 100% of pre-booked requests has been secured. Wait Listed requests will be fulfilled according to vaccine availability. VFC cannot guarantee 100% fulfillment of all wait listed requests. Please be sure to use previous year's doses administered and billing data to determine vaccine estimates you will need to vaccinate your VFC and PeachCare eligible children 0 through 18 years of age during the upcoming flu season.

---

**Beginning this year, each VFC Update features a VFC Provider Requirements and Guidelines Spotlight created to highlight sections of the VFC Provider Agreement, Vaccine Loss Policy, Accountability Policy and the Fraud & Abuse policy. The intent of the spotlight is to remind busy clinic staff of program requirements and to help staff better understand policies and protocols in place to ensure vaccine safety and accountability. Feel free to submit questions you would like to see addresses in this special spotlight. Send requests to [DPH-gavfc@dph.ga.gov](mailto:DPH-gavfc@dph.ga.gov).**

---

### **VFC Provider Requirements & Guidelines Spotlight: Online Vaccine Ordering Made Simple**

VFC currently requires all new and existing providers to submit vaccine orders online. Many providers confuse submitting orders online with online reporting. Just to be sure we are all on the same page here is a breakdown of definitions:

Online Ordering: Manage orders functionality added to GRITS which requires a separate login from your standard login. The additional manage orders login must be requested once providers complete the online training course found here:

[https://www.gritstest.state.ga.us/docs/ManageOrders\\_20FEB\\_2014\\_Final\\_Copy.htm](https://www.gritstest.state.ga.us/docs/ManageOrders_20FEB_2014_Final_Copy.htm)

Online Reporting: Providers manage their inventory in GRITS and once a month; submit inventory counts to generate a Monthly Comprehensive Report.

*\*see page 3 for more manage orders information and clarification*

## GRITS Online Manage Orders Updates

Phase 5 of our transition to online vaccine ordering via the new manage orders function in GRITS ended on February 13. As of the date of this update, all enrolled VFC sites should have completed the GRITS Manage Orders online training module and submitted a request for a new GRITS Manage Orders login to access the ordering function.

As a reminder, enhancements to the current system will include:

- Manage Order Screen: Allows providers to place their vaccine orders online and adjust orders as needed
- Electronic Upload of Inventory Data: Eliminates the need to manually enter shipments received data (for sites reporting via GRITS only)
- Order Tracking: Allows providers to track the progress of orders placed
- Providers may update site information using the new manage orders, manage site menu option and changes will electronically update the site's profile in VFC's vaccine management database VTrckS ensuring that VFC's email distribution list remains current and sites are able to receive important program updates.

**Providers who have not received a login must immediately complete the online training and contact VFC for login credentials by calling (404) 657-5013.**

Link to online training: [https://www.gritstest.state.ga.us/docs/ManageOrders\\_20FEB\\_2014\\_Final\\_Copy.htm](https://www.gritstest.state.ga.us/docs/ManageOrders_20FEB_2014_Final_Copy.htm)

### Tips and Reminders:

- Once assigned a manage orders user login, all future orders must be placed online
- When placing orders online, be sure to order enough vaccine to restore your stock to a 3 month supply
- Once shipments are received, log in to your standard *GRITS account to accept the vaccine transfers which will automatically update your inventory counts. Do not manually enter your inventory into GRITS.*
- Order status reminders:
  - Pending = needs review and approval by VFC. Order can be changed by the site. Orders should be in this pending state for no more than approximately 3 days.
  - In Progress = Order is being reviewed by VFC and no changes can be made by the site. If an order is 'In Progress' for more than 3 days, follow up with VFC to determine the issue.
  - Denied = Entire order denied by VFC, contact the program to resolve the issue preventing approval of the order.
  - Approved = Order reviewed and approved by VFC
  - Sent to CDC/Distributor = Order data uploaded to VFC's vaccine management database for processing and fulfillment by McKesson.
  - Partially Fulfilled = a portion of the order has delivered and transfer data is pending acceptance
  - Fulfilled = The complete order is on its way to the provider site for delivery
  - Accepted = Order complete, shipment received, transfers accepted and doses have been added to the provider's current inventory count (accepting transfers to update inventory counts is only available to providers using GRITS to manage their inventory and submit monthly reports).

## VFC Basics – Important Reminders

**STORE** VFC vaccines according to current CDC guidelines. VFC strongly recommends that frozen vaccines be stored in a pharmaceutical grade, commercial grade, or stand-alone unit. GA VFC will require providers currently using combination units to store frozen vaccines to adhere to this guideline as of **January 1, 2016**. More information on recommended frozen vaccine storage can be found in the CDC's Storage and Handling Toolkit by clicking on the following link <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/storage/toolkit/storage-handling-toolkit.pdf>

**RECORD** temperatures a minimum of twice per day using an NIST or ASTM certified thermometer with a current certificate of calibration. Refrigerator temperatures should remain between 35- 46° Fahrenheit and 2°-8° Celsius. Freezer temperatures should remain between 5° or colder Fahrenheit and -15° or colder Celsius. Temperature excursions outside of the required range should be reported to VFC immediately!

**VERIFY AND DOCUMENT** eligibility status for each patient during each immunization encounter. Be sure to differentiate between Medicaid and PeachCare CMO (Amerigroup, Peach State and WellCare). The two should be reported separately on the GRITS and the manual Excel reporting form.

**REPORT** doses administered to Medicaid patients separately from doses administered to PeachCare for Kids® patients. Doses administered to PeachCare for Kids® patients should be reported in the PeachCare column of the manual report.

**REPORT** usage, inventory, and wastage monthly via GRITS. Monthly reports are used to replenish vaccine shipments based on usage and inventory totals. Replenishment totals are based on a 3 month storage cushion and is calculated as follows:

**Usage x 3 months – Inventory = # of doses to ship/doses presumed needed**

**~~NEW FOR 2015~~** **SUBMIT** orders online using the new GRITS Manage Orders function. Contact VFC to receive log in credentials if access has not been granted.

**REVIEW** GRITS monthly reports for errors presented as doses listed in the "Insured/Ineligible" column and doses listed as (-) or (over) on the Vaccine Accountability Statement. Submit a copy of the report and a written explanation of errors by fax or email to avoid shipping delays.

**REPORT** short dated vaccines 90 days prior to expiration. Per the VFC Loss Policy, providers are required to report expiring vaccines 90 days prior to expiration.

### Contact Us

#### Georgia Vaccines for Children Program

2 Peachtree Street, NW 13-276

Atlanta, GA 30303-3142

(404) 657-5013 phone

(800) 848-3868 toll free phone

(404) 657-5736 fax

(800) 372-3627 toll free fax

[DPH-gavfc@dph.ga.gov](mailto:DPH-gavfc@dph.ga.gov)

<http://dph.georgia.gov/vaccines-children-program>

**RETURN** wasted and/or expired doses to McKesson within 6 months of expiration. VFC vaccine should not be discarded. Exemptions to this rule include expired/wasted multi-dose vials or expired/wasted syringes. Both however must be reported monthly.

**RECORD** date, vaccine manufacturer, trade name, lot number and VIS publication date in the patient records for every vaccine administered.

**MAINTAIN** a completed Vaccine Emergency/Disaster Recovery Plan in an accessible location in the event of refrigerator/freezer malfunctions, natural disasters, etc.

**NOTIFY** VFC of changes in staff, vacation, power outages, address change, etc. Physicians and nursing staff signed to the provider agreement are responsible for notifying VFC of any changes that may affect vaccine shipments.

**REVIEW** CDC guidelines for Storage and Handling and set protocols in place to ensure effectiveness of vaccine administered to patients.