

Vaccines for Children Provider Update November 26, 2014

Vaccine Updates

Kinrix® Syringes: Currently out of stock. Alternate choice: Kinrix® vials.

Vaqt® Syringes: Currently out of stock. New 10-syringe packaging will replace the 6-syringe packaging when doses become available through CDC. Alternate choice: Vaqt® vials or Havrix® syringes or vials

Recombivax® Syringes: Currently out of stock. New 10-syringe packaging will replace the 6-syringe packaging when doses become available from CDC. Alternate choice: Recombivax® vials or Engerix® syringes or vials

Comvax®: No longer available. Please remove from your preference list in GRITS. Alternate: Single antigen Hep B and Hib.

Cervarix®: No longer available. Please remove from your preference list in GRITS. Alternate choice: Gardasil®

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

Holiday Order Blackout

VFC is currently on an order blackout for the Thanksgiving holiday and shipments will resume on Tuesday, December 2. Another holiday shipping blackout is scheduled for December 19 – January 2, 2015. To receive a shipment prior to the December blackout, providers must plan to submit their report by no later than December 8. As a reminder, Monthly Reporting is required and helps to maintain appropriate vaccine inventory levels. Providers who maintain a 2-3 month supply are more likely to be able to accommodate their patients' needs during shipping blackouts and vaccine shortages.

Important Vaccine Availability Update

Providers using the new manage orders function to submit orders in Phase 1-4 should be aware of important vaccine availability updates listed in the column to the left. Update your vaccine brand/presentation preferences accordingly to ensure alternate items are available for ordering on the vaccine order screen. More details are included in the Manage Orders section on page 3 of this update.

2014-2015 Flu Season – Shipments Update

Georgia has received and shipped pre-booked and wait listed requests. Providers in need of additional flu vaccine may now submit requests by sending an email to DPH-GAVFC@dph.ga.gov.

2014-15 GA Flu Vaccine List with NDC and CPT Codes**

CPT	NDC	Brand/Presentation	VFC Age
90685	49281-0514-25	Fluzone®/Quad SDS	6-35 months
90686	49281-0414-10	Fluzone®/Quad SDV	3-18 years
90656	49281-0014-50	Fluzone®/Tri SDS	3-18 years
90686	49281-0414-50	Fluzone®/Quad SDS	3-18 years
90657/90658*	9281-0394-15	Fluzone®/Tri MDV	6 mos-18 yrs
90687/90688*	49281-0621-15	Fluzone®/Quad MDV	6 mos-18 yrs
90686	58160-0901-52	Fluarix®/Quad SDS	3-18 years
90688	19515-0891-11	FluLaval®/Quad MDV	3-18 years
90658	19515-0893-07	FluLaval®/Tri MDV	3-18 years
90672	66019-0301-10	FluMist®/Quad IS	2-18 years

* First CPT Code in each group should be used when the dose size is 0.25 for 6-35 months of age, and the second code in each group should be used when the dose size is 0.5 for 3 years of age and older.

**The 2014-2015 influenza VISs are available and should replace current versions

New Manage Orders Function Updates

We are currently in Phase 4 of our transition to online vaccine ordering via the new manage orders function in GRITS which allows **both** providers managing their inventory in GRITS **and** those manually submitting Excel reports to submit their vaccine orders online.*

- Phase 4 began on November 24.
- Two phases remain which will include all remaining providers, both GRITS reporters and manual reporters
- GRITS reporters will enjoy the added benefit of accepting shipping transfers, which eliminates manual entry of shipments received into GRITS inventory counts.
- Providers remaining to transition will be selected at random through February 2015
- Selected providers will receive an email notification prior to the beginning of their assigned phase
- Providers must quickly respond to the email with the name of one person designated to receive a new user role which will allow access to the manage orders function
- Staff with current access to GRITS will be able to continue to function in GRITS as they have in the past without interruption
- Excel reporters will manually enter their vaccine inventory counts into GRITS, submit their order online, and submit a copy of the Excel form to VFC for final review and to assist in approving orders submitted online

All providers must complete the online training and submit a completion certificate prior to your transition date. Link to online training module:

https://www.gritstest.state.ga.us/docs/ManageOrders_20FEB_2014_Final_Copy.htm. Submit a copy of your completed certificate via email to DPH-gavfc@dph.ga.gov or submit via fax to 1-800-372-3627.

Selecting vaccine preferences in GRITS

All providers utilizing GRITS to submit monthly reports via GRITS and manual providers submitting inventory data and orders via the new manage orders function **MUST** select vaccine order preferences in GRITS prior to entering inventory counts. VFC will only ship items selected as a preference. Reports without preferences selected will experience order delays.

Pay close attention to VFC updates for guidance on updating vaccine preferences as needed based on vaccine availability. Currently the following vaccines are unavailable and an alternate vaccine must be selected: **Infanrix® vials and syringes, **Kinrix®** syringes, **Recombivax®** 6 dose syringes, and **Vaqta®** 6 dose syringes, **Comvax®** and **Cervarix®** are no longer available for ordering. Orders submitted for any of these vaccines using the manage orders function will be denied and alternate products will be shipped and must be manually entered into your GRITS inventory (GRITS reporters only).*

VFC Basics – Important Reminders

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 must 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 must be reported separately on the GRITS and the manual Excel reporting form.

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

REPORT doses administered to Medicaid patients separately from doses administered to PeachCare for Kids® patients. Doses administered to PeachCare for Kids® patients must 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 are calculated as follows:

$$\text{Usage} \times 3 \text{ months} - \text{Inventory} = \# \text{ of doses to ship/doses presumed needed}$$

Note** Always review your GRITS Vaccine Accountability Report, Column 'J' for 'Doses Presumed Needed'. Review your manual Excel report for 'Doses to Ship'. Contact VFC immediately to modify amounts to maintain a 2-3 month vaccine supply. Email requests to DPH-gavfc@dph.ga.gov or call (404) 657-5013.

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 their expiration date. Per the VFC Loss Policy, providers are required to report expiring vaccines 90 days prior to expiration.

RETURN wasted 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 vaccine drawn up into syringes but not administered (pre-filled syringes that have not been attached to a needle for administration must be returned). However, all wasted or expired vaccines must be reported monthly.

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.

The VFC Administrative Office is available to assist you with your needs at (404) 657-5013 or (800) 848-3868 or via email sent to DPH-gavfc@dph.ga.gov. Your Immunization Program Consultant (IPC) is also available to assist you with hands on training. IPC's may be contacted by calling the VFC Office. Remember, if in doubt, call VFC, we are here to help!