

**Alternative  
Vaccine  
Schedules**

Promote and follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's

(CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) childhood vaccine schedule. This requirement is specified in the Provider Agreement that VVFC providers sign each year. The ACIP childhood vaccination schedule is the only schedule that is approved by the CDC, American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP). If parents choose to have their child vaccinated following an alternative schedule, they should be fully informed of the risks to their child. Dr. Paul Offit, a vaccine researcher and pediatric infectious disease specialist, wrote an article detailing the problems with the Dr. Sears schedule, which is the most frequently used alternative schedule. Published in January 2009 *Pediatrics*, it can be accessed at <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/123/1/e164>

**Vacations / Hurricane Season**

There have been many failed vaccine deliveries to VVFC providers due to summer vacations and mid-day closures. Please notify the Order Center of your hours of operation. Do not order vaccine before a vacation closure. As hurricane season approaches, review your EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS!!

**Vaccine Shortages**

Providers are reminded to order Hep B and Hib-containing vaccines each month. Orders will be reviewed to ensure only a monthly supply is allowed. All other vaccines should be ordered quarterly unless otherwise allowed.

**Order Frequency**

Order frequency is at an all-time high due to monthly allocations of Hib and Hep B. The VVFC Order Center sends out about 29,000 doses of vaccine each week. Please make every effort to minimize the number of orders you submit so that they are separated by at least thirty days. Do not wait until the last-minute to order!

**Staffing Changes**

July has been a month of staffing change for VVFC! Two VVFC employees have accepted jobs with the Virginia Immunization Information System (VIIS): Rochelle Green, formerly with the VVFC Order Center and Theresa Woodyard, formerly the Northern Region Consultant are now VIIS consultants. The VVFC program welcomes John Gotschalk who has been hired as the Vaccine Management Specialist replacing Rochelle Green. Susan Kocen joined the VFC program a year ago as the Vaccine Accountability Supervisor. A past-due welcome goes out to Susan!

**H1N1 Pre-Registration**

To pre-register as a H1N1 influenza vaccine provider, please go to:

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/news/Alerts/SwineFlu/index.htm> or contact the Division of Immunization at 804-864-8055. Pre-registered facilities are not committed to administering vaccine; however they will receive periodic updates and vaccine planning information.

**Gold Star Awards****Exceptional Immunization Rates**

Carilion Pediatric Clinic, Roanoke  
Carilion Roanoke Community Hospital,  
Roanoke

Hopewell Children's Clinic, Hopewell  
Marion Pediatric Associates, Marion  
Mountainview Pediatrics, Marion  
Pine Grove Pediatrics, Manassas

**Outstanding VVFC Compliance**

Albemarle Square Family Healthcare,  
Charlottesville

Augusta Family Practice, Fishersville  
Child Health Associates, Warrenton  
Children First, Inc., Dumfries  
Commonwealth Pediatrics, Colonial Heights  
Emporia Medical Associates, Emporia  
Family Medicine of Farmville  
MCVH Pediatric and Adolescent Clinic, Richmond  
Piedmont Family Practice, Warrenton  
Piedmont Medical Clinic, Manassas  
Practice of Dr. Campbell, Free Union  
Practice of Dr. Ho, Falls Church  
Sacoto Pediatrics, Arlington  
The Pediatric Group, Woodbridge  
Valley Children's Clinic, Harrisonburg  
Virginia Pediatrics, Colonial Heights

