

## The BackPage

January/February 2012

### Storage and Handling Modified Recommendations

In the past providers were encouraged to use bins, baskets, or some other type of

uncovered containers with slotted sides or openings to store vaccines. Recent National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) studies utilized uncovered bins with solid sides and demonstrated that these types of bins would be appropriate for storage of vaccines. This information will be included in the Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit. The Vaccine Storage and Handling Guide has been revised to reflect this new information. Updated information regarding bins can be found on page 7 of the guide. The Vaccine Storage and Handling Guide can be found on the CDC website at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/storage/guide/vaccine-storage-handling.pdf>

### Flu Update

Call Susan Kocen if you need additional VVFC flu vaccine. Influenza vaccination is recommended for almost everyone, so please keep vaccinating your patients. Your 2012-13 flu pre-book form will be faxed to you in early February. Please indicate any preferences you have for VFC's consideration and return by 3/31/12. The form can be found at: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/Immunization/VFC/documents/forms/FluOrderForm.pdf>

### VISs

Federal law mandates you must give your patients current Vaccine Information Statements (VISs). Check your stock of VISs against this list:

Anthrax 3/10/10	MMRV 5/21/10
Chickenpox 3/13/08	Multi-vaccine 9/18/08
DTaP/DT/DTP 5/17/07	PCV 4/16/10
Hepatitis A 10/25/11	PPSV 10/06/09
Hepatitis B 7/18/07	Polio 11/08/11
Hib 12/16/98	Rabies 10/06/09
HPV 5/03/11	Rotavirus 12/06/10
Influenza (LAIV) 7/26/11	Shingles 10/06/09
Influenza (TIV) 7/26/11	Smallpox 11/15/03
Japan. enceph. 12/07/11	Td/Tdap 11/18/08
Meningococcal 10/14/11	Typhoid 5/19/04
MMR 3/13/08	Yellow fever 3/30/11

Need a VIS? Search <http://www.immunize.org/vis>

### Fraud and Abuse Policy

Cases of negligence are being reviewed on a case-by-case basis. The policy states, "Final resolution (of Fraud and/or Abuse) may include interventions such as: technical assistance, education and follow-up, replacement of vaccine..." Please review the policy at: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/Immunization/documents/FraudAbuse.pdf>

### Transferring Vaccine

A provider may no longer need a particular vaccine because they change brands, or begin using a combination vaccine. If you have too much of a particular vaccine, the central office can assist with transferring it in order to keep wastage rates low.

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### Gold Star Awards

#### Exceptional Immunization Rates

Madison Family Medicine, Vienna  
Practice of Dr. Varandani & Assoc., Pennington Gap



#### Outstanding VVFC Compliance

Appomattox Area Health & Wellness, Petersburg  
Arlington Pediatric Center, Arlington  
Charlotte Primary Care, Charlotte Court House  
Childrens Choice New River Valley, Dublin  
Children's Clinic, Rocky Mount  
Children's Health, P.C., Fredericksburg  
Clinch River Health Services, Dungannon  
CMG Medical Center-Heathsville, Heathsville  
Crestwood Pediatric Associates, Manassas  
East End Pediatrics, Newport News  
Madison Family Medicine, Vienna  
Magnolia Family Medicine, Abingdon  
Pediatric Associates of Alexandria, Alexandria  
Pediatrics Internationale, P.C., Alexandria  
Piedmont Family Practice, Warrenton  
Richeson Drive Pediatrics, Inc., Lynchburg

#### Farewell 2011

After 2011's early summer tornado, late summer's earthquake, and a visit by Irene, winter feels like "the calm after the storm." But, even when Mother Nature is behaving, Murphy's Law lurks!

On a recent, mild December day, a refrigerator at Surry County Health Department began malfunctioning. The staff's prompt response, strong determination, perseverance, and excellent documentation were remarkable.

Efforts by Surry County Health Department to correct the malfunctioning refrigerator prompts our reflecting back on the many other storage challenges bestowed upon providers in 2011. VVFC wants to give a "shout out" to all of those who act or react to ensure vaccine viability. Thank you for your hard work and dedication.