

Flu Update

Contact Susan Kocen if you need VFC flu vaccine. All formulations are available.

MedImmune will once

again offer their replacement program to exchange expired or short-dated FluMist. Providers who ordered VFC FluMist will be sent reminders. Information on this program can be found at:

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/immunization/VFC/documents/2011CDCInstructionsReplacementProgram.pdf>

Vaccine Information Statements (VIS)

CDC posted a new VIS for meningococcal vaccine on 10/14/2011. CDC posted an updated interim hepatitis A vaccine VIS on 10/25/2011, primarily to include recommendations for families and other close contacts of newly arriving adopted children, and information about post-exposure prophylaxis. Please begin using these VISs immediately. All current VISs can be found at

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/>

VTckS/VIIS Update

CDC has developed a new system for processing vaccine orders and managing vaccine accountability. The CDC system is called VTckS. Virginia will begin testing VTckS early in 2012.

Concurrently, a VFC Vaccine Ordering Module is being created in the Virginia Immunization Information System (VIIS). Orders placed through VIIS will be uploaded to VTckS. VFC providers are strongly encouraged to contact the VIIS program to obtain access to this web-based application. VFC providers who use VIIS for documenting patient immunization records and for managing inventory will avoid having to conduct a physical inventory when placing vaccine orders. Additionally, VIIS can generate reports for your office's VFC Registration and facilitate vaccine accountability reporting. To learn more, contact the Central Office at 804-864-8055.

HPV for Males

On October 25, ACIP voted to recommend the routine vaccination of males age 11-12 years with 3 doses of HPV4 vaccine [Gardasil; Merck]. The HPV vaccine will provide protection against certain HPV-related conditions and cancers in males, and may also provide indirect protection for women by reducing transmission of HPV. For a related press release transcript from CDC, go to:

http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2011/t1025_hpv_12yrol vaccine.html Reminder: The United States Congress designated January as Cervical Health Awareness Month.

Holiday Shipping

Vaccine shipments from McKesson will be HELD the week of Thanksgiving AND from December 23-30. The VVFC Order Center will not enter direct-ship orders of Varicella to

avoid deliveries from Merck during these same time periods, however a few Varicella shipments might arrive. Providers should indicate any changes to routine hours on the order form and should order vaccine mindful of their Holiday closures.

Emergency Plans

As noted in the January/February 2011 issue of the BackPage, VVFC has implemented a vaccine replacement policy. Avoid costly mistakes by taking time to ensure all staff are aware of what to do when vaccine arrives and during inclement weather.

PIV VIIS Outstanding User Award

Project Immunize Virginia (PIV) wants to reward you! Starting January 2012, all sites participating in VIIS will be evaluated on their use of the system. Sites that meet the screening criteria (active users, complete data entry, and run reports) will receive the VIIS Outstanding User Award and be recognized on the PIV website! For more information on the criteria, please visit the PIV website at:

<http://www.immunizeva.org/>

Gold Star Awards

Exceptional Immunization Rates

Pediatrics & Newborn Care, Leesburg
Practice of William E. Boyd Jr., Clifton Forge



Outstanding VVFC Compliance

Centra Southside Farmville Medical Clinic, Farmville
Chancellor Pediatrics, Fredericksburg
Fredericksburg Christian Health Center, Fredericksburg
Hanover Family Physicians, Mechanicsville
Highlander Family Medicine, Woodstock
P. L. Physicians, Fredericksburg
Pediatrics & Newborn Care, Leesburg
South Hill Family Medicine, South Hill

Immunization Champion

Children's Choice of the New River Valley located in Dublin, Virginia is among the largest VFC providers enrolled in the Virginia Vaccines for Children program. Serving the region for over 10 years, Children's Choice of the New River Valley treats newborns through adolescents. While serving over 1000 VFC eligible children each year, Children's Choice has maintained superb compliance standards over the past four consecutive years. In addition to outstanding program compliance, their adolescent vaccine coverage rate has increased from 63% to 82% over the past 3 years. The staff attributes their success to the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system implemented in the winter of 2008. The EMR shows staff which vaccines are due for a patient when the name is entered. Staff review this during all visits, including sick visits. Constant monitoring of each patient's immunization status is the key to the exceptional coverage rates Children's Choice has achieved.