

Hib Supply

It is important for all children in your practice to receive the 3 dose primary series of Hib-

containing vaccine. For an update on Hib Disease and information on which children need to be scheduled for Hib vaccine go to:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/hib/providers-parents.htm>

Hep B Supply

Merck has communicated to CDC that its supply of the pediatric/adolescent formulation of Recombivax is expected to be limited throughout the remainder of 2009.

Prevent Vaccine Waste

In an effort to comply with CDC's requirement to minimize vaccine waste, we ask all providers to notify the VVFC office if they have vaccine that cannot be administered, three months prior to its expiration. We will help identify a practice in your area that can use the extra vaccine. In turn, we ask your willingness to accept vaccine transfers from providers in your area when they have vaccine you can use. The best way to minimize excessive vaccine inventory is to monitor your inventory on a continuous basis, properly rotate stock, and note current inventory when you place vaccine orders using the current order form:

<http://www.vdh.state.va.us/epidemiology/immunization/VFC/documents/forms/VVFCOrderForm>

Vaccine Update Conference

Register for the 10th Vaccine Update Conference: Addressing Parents' Concerns, a one-day conference on April 3, 2009. The conference is being held in Richmond. Continuing Education (CE) credits are available for physicians, nurses and pharmacists. Dr. William Atkinson, medical epidemiologist with NCIRD, is among the presenters. The registration deadline is March 20th. Visit www.immunizeva.org to register for this bi-annual event or contact Michelle B. Charters, 757.668.6488 for additional information.

HPV – 6th Grade Entry

Legislation requiring HPV vaccine for girls prior to entry into the 6th grade, became effective October 1, 2008. Materials will be sent to public and private schools for distribution to parents of 5th grade girls. Spanish translations are available on our web site at:

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/Epidemiology/Immunization/requirements.htm> This requirement, unlike any other Code-required vaccine, does not require parents to document vaccination. The Code also allows parents to refuse to vaccinate their daughters without signing any form. The Department of Education Superintendent's memo regarding HPV vaccination can be found at the following link:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/info_centers/administrators/superintendents_memos/2009/015-09.shtml

Flu Activity

Influenza activity is increasing. Yearly vaccination is the most important step in protecting against influenza and its complications. Continue vaccinating into spring. The deadline for pre-booking flu vaccine for the 09/10 flu season is March 31st.

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