The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved an expanded age indication for GARDASIL®9, Merck's 9-valent human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine, to now include use in males 16 through 26 years of age. This indication is a key milestone in transitioning from GARDASIL® Human Papillomavirus Quadrivalent Vaccine to GARDASIL 9 in the United States.

Continuous Temperature Monitoring
Many VVFC providers are using the Berlinger Fridge-tag 2 data logger. Take advantage of the training materials for these devices on the VVFC website. Regardless of what device you use for temperature monitoring, action should be taken when temperatures are outside recommended ranges. DO NOT ignore out of range temperatures/alarms! If you experience temperature excursions, quarantine the vaccine at appropriate temperatures and call your assigned consultant or the central office. The vaccine manufacturers must be called in the event of an excursion to ensure vaccine viability. Refrigerated vaccine is more sensitive to temperatures that are too cold! Keep refrigerator temperatures on the warmer side of the 2 – 8°C range.

Return Labels
If a return label is not received via email, check your spam folder. UPS return labels can be e-mailed to you when you have vaccine to send back to McKesson for the federal excise tax credit. When email is used, a unique UPS return label will be emailed from McKesson Specialty Care Dist [mailto:pkinfo@ups.com] to the contact email address. The subject of the email with the return label will be titled “UPS Label Delivery, <Label tracking Number>.” Return labels should be available by email in about 15-30 minutes after the return is entered.

Gold Star Awards (Oct/Nov)

Exceptional Immunization Rates
Atlantic Community Health Center, New Church
Bayview Community Health Center, Cheriton
Carilion Clinic Family & OB Medicine, Christiansburg
Carilion Family Medicine, Christiansburg
Chincoteague Island Community Health, Chincoteague
Olde Towne Medical Center, Williamsburg
Onley Community Health Center, Onley
Pediatrics at Oyster Point, Newport News
Virginia Premier Medical Home, Roanoke

Outstanding VVFC Compliance
Capital Area Pediatrics, Falls Church
Pediatric Center, Hampton
Wellmont Medical Associates, Norton

Immunization Champion
Augusta Pediatrics in Fishersville demonstrates dedication to vaccinating all patients in their practice. They provide thorough immunization education to parents and patients and aim to ensure all patients stay up to date with vaccination schedules. Exceptional dedication is evidenced by a 100% immunization coverage rate for the 4313314 series.