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March/April 2016

Pentacel Supply

Sanofi Pasteur's manufacturing delay affecting Pentacel vaccine supply continues. As a result, Sanofi Pasteur

is not able to meet all of the Pentacel vaccine demand throughout the first half of 2016. However, Sanofi Pasteur has sufficient supplies of the relevant single antigen vaccines (DAPTACEL, ActHIB, and IPOL) to address the anticipated gap in Pentacel supply. Vaccine orders will be adjusted to ensure that providers have equitable access to Sanofi Pasteur's pertussis-containing vaccines and related products. CDC's shortages website, <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vac-gen/shortages/default.htm>, has been updated to provide the most recent information related to the 2015-16 Pentacel Manufacturing Delay, including sample schedules.

Communication

The VVFC program relies heavily on e-mail communication. The annual provider agreement requires a primary and back-up vaccine coordinator name and e-mail. These are not optional sections of the form. It is a program requirement to notify the VVFC program of updates on the provider agreement as soon as possible.

Temperature Excursions

DO NOT ignore out of range temperatures/alarms. Follow the troubleshooting guidance on page 55 in CDC's storage and handling toolkit found here: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/storage/toolkit/default.htm> For any temperature excursion you must quarantine (bag) and label the vaccine, and call the vaccine manufacturers to determine vaccine viability. Store the vaccine under correct temperature storage conditions until vaccine viability is determined. Do not assume that the outcome for one excursion can be applied to other excursions. The vaccine manufacturer will need to know the current storage unit temperature along with the minimum and maximum temperatures, and the room temperature.

Back-up Thermometers

Purchase at least one backup thermometer with a current certificate of calibration and with a different calibration retesting date than the primary thermometer. Some thermometers are appropriate for both refrigerators and freezers. Make sure the certificate complies with CDC requirements found here: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/immunization/VFC/documents/SnH/TemperatureMonitoringandCalibrationChecklist.pdf>

Flu Vaccine

Additional doses of flu vaccine are available and can be requested by contacting the Order Center. Continue vaccination throughout flu season. MedImmune's replacement program ended 1/31/16, so providers must return expired FluMist to McKesson for excise tax credit. Influenza pre-book for next flu season is due.

Berlinger Data Logger Training

Effective 1/1/2016 a data logger report is required with each vaccine order. Many providers are using the Berlinger Fridge-tags to meet the data logger requirement. There are helpful training guides on the Berlinger website:

<http://www.berlinger.com/temperature-monitoring/products-hardware/product-overview/>

There are five helpful YouTube videos at <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/immunization/VFC/datalogger/index.htm> which demonstrate the following: 1) How to start 2) How to install 3) How to read reports 4) How to read the screen daily 5) How to change time, date, Celsius. These take a couple of minutes to load, so be patient. You can also call your VVFC consultant for assistance.

Gold Star Awards (Dec/Jan)

Exceptional Immunization Rates

Augusta Pediatrics, Fishersville



Outstanding VVFC Compliance

Augusta Pediatrics, Fishersville
CMG Pediatric Specialists, Norfolk
Healthworks for Northern Va., Landsdowne
Healthworks for Northern VA., Herndon
New River Valley Pediatrics, Blacksburg
Physicians to Children, Roanoke
Sacoto Pediatrics, Arlington
Sentara Obici Hospital, Suffolk

Immunization Champion – Arlington Pediatric Center

Arlington Pediatric Center (APC) is a medical home for over 1,100 children under the age of 3. Many of these children live in households with annual incomes at or below 200% of the federal poverty level and more than 80% of their families are recent immigrants, from Central and South America, China, Mongolia, Morocco, and elsewhere. Many children arrive with no record of immunizations or a record of incomplete immunizations. Delicia Claure, the Clinic Director has led the APC staff in their efforts to ensure every child is up-to-date on vaccines. Her actions have ensured that 97% of children from 24 to 35 months of age are up-to-date on vaccines based on the ACIP's 4:3:1:3:3:1:4 immunization series. Delicia personally works with the families of any children who are not up-to-date on immunizations to complete the series. She thoroughly documents immunizations missed due to history of disease and contraindications in VIIS, so if the family moves, other medical providers will have access to the child's complete immunization history.