

Thermometer Requirement

There is a new requirement that provider thermometers must be calibration-tested annually

in the absence of a manufacturer-recommended timeline. Please check the certificate of calibration for each thermometer currently in use for monitoring vaccine storage to ensure this requirement is met.

New Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) for PCV 13

The new Vaccine Information Statement for PCV 13 dated 2/27/2013 can be found at: <http://www.immunize.org/vis/>

“You Call the Shots” Web-based Training

The link to You Call The Shots Web-based Training Course is: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/youcalltheshots.htm>.

The *Hepatitis A* module has recently been updated and is now available. The training environment offers continuing education or a certificate of attendance. You can subscribe to the module’s email subscription service to be notified when training is updated.

Excellent Immunization Resource

The Immunization Action Coalition has a great web site with a lot of information for both patients and providers. It can be found at <http://www.immunize.org/> where you can access their materials and subscribe to the newsletter. Subscribe to their distribution list to receive the latest immunization news, and access to useful vaccine resources.

Pentacel Supply Update

Pentacel supply has not improved as anticipated and VVFC cannot fill ANY order for Pentacel. Providers can order increased amounts of combination and single antigen vaccines. Additional Pentacel doses are expected in June, 2013, with order allocations expected to be reinstated and remain in effect through early September, 2013.

Unannounced Site Visits

VVFC field staff will begin performing the unannounced storage and handling office visits this summer to comply with the new CDC requirement. Please be patient with your assigned consultant as we work through this new process.

Storage and Handling Project Update

In October 2012, the Division of Immunization was awarded funding to make vaccine storage and handling improvements. The project includes developing a continuous temperature monitoring protocol, and conducting a storage assessment survey. Several VVFC providers have expressed interest to serve in the pilot group to test/improve the initial temperature monitoring protocol:

Chesterfield Health District sites
Forest Lake Family Medicine

Pediatric Associates of Charlottesville
Potomac Pediatrics
Suffolk Health Department

Please call the central office if you are interested in participating in round two. The survey is nearing completion and will be distributed electronically, after being tested by the pilot group. Each provider site is asked to submit a site-specific survey. Research on a continuous monitoring device to pilot is on-going.

Gold Star Awards

Exceptional Immunization Rates

Clinica Latina Pediatrica, Alexandria

Outstanding VVFC Compliance

Access Health Care, Forest
All Pediatrics of Lorton, Lorton
Bluefield Family Medicine, Bluefield
Chesapeake Pediatrics, Chesapeake
Children’s Health Assoc.-Tidewater, Chesapeake
Front Royal Pediatrics, Front Royal
Hispanic American Pediatric Assoc., Falls Church
M.T. Curry, Inc., Virginia Beach
Prince William HD, Manassas Clinic, Manassas
Prince William HD, Woodbridge Clinic, Woodbridge
Portsmouth Pediatrics, P.C., Portsmouth
Office of Dr. Pujol, Vienna
Office of Dr. Rodriguez, Alexandria
Shenandoah Pediatrics, Woodstock
Shenandoah Pediatrics, P.C., Strasburg
Southside Community Health Center, Alberta
The Pediatric Group, P.C., Chantilly
Tidewater Children’s Associates, Norfolk



Immunization Champion

F. Read Hopkins Pediatric Associates, Lynchburg

It has almost been a year since the Derecho left more than 700 miles of destruction across the Midwest and mid-Atlantic in June 2012. F. Read Hopkins Pediatric Associates lost both private and VFC vaccine due to that event. Since then, they have purchased a generator which automatically turns on any time the power goes out. They have a back-up Emergency Response Plan which identifies an alternative location for the vaccine if the generator fails. A battery-operated continuous recording thermometer has been placed in their main storage unit. It takes temperatures constantly, even if the power should go out. Such documentation often provides vaccine manufacturers with enough information to assess the vaccine’s viability.