

## VVFC

### Administration Fee

VFC providers cannot deny administration of a federally purchased vaccine to an established patient whose

parent/guardian/individual of record is unable to pay the administration fee. This requirement applies to VFC vaccines as well as any other vaccines purchased through CDC federal contracts when the VFC-eligible or state-eligible child's family/guardian is unable to pay the administration fee. The only fee that must be waived is the administration fee. Other visit or office fees may be charged as applicable.

### Notes on Adolescent Immunizations

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends that preteens get Tdap, MCV4, and the first HPV vaccine dose during a single visit.

- As of March 2014, both Tdap products, Adacel and Boostrix, have the same lower age indication of 10 years.
- ACIP recommends that adolescents who receive the first dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine at age 13 through 15 years receive a one-time booster dose at age 16 through 18 years.
- CDC estimates that approximately 26,000 new cancers attributable to HPV occurred each year. The National Immunization Survey for Teens (NIS-Teen), conducted annually by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), showed in their 2013 survey that HPV vaccination series completion rates have continued to increase each year but the rates are still low.

## Flu

Flu vaccine distribution has begun. Per the CDC, begin vaccinating upon receipt. The Influenza VISs for the 2014-15 season are available.

[http://www.immunize.org/vis/vis\\_flu\\_live.asp](http://www.immunize.org/vis/vis_flu_live.asp)

The CDC recently published the MMWR for the 2014-15 Influenza season. See this link for more:

[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwr\\_wk/wk\\_cv01.html](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwr_wk/wk_cv01.html)

### Temperature Monitoring Tip

Many VVFC providers are using data loggers for continuous temperature monitoring as recommended by CDC. These devices not only record the current temperatures, but also provide detailed information when the storage unit reaches temperatures outside the recommended ranges. Make sure you review the information associated with alarms! If vaccine has been compromised, call the vaccine manufacturer for information on the viability of the vaccine.

### Vaccine Returns

Notify the central office when vaccine expires or spoils by filling out the vaccine return form. Always call the manufacturer regarding vaccine viability when there has

been a temperature excursion. Send the form to the Order Center before you send the vaccine to McKesson to prevent duplicated reporting. Open multi-dose vials and/or broken vials are hazardous and should be reported, but not returned. Never send needles!

## Gold Star Awards

### Exceptional Immunization Rates

Martha Jefferson - Afton Family Med., Afton  
Medical Associates of Louisa, Louisa  
Pediatric Partners of Stafford, Stafford



### Outstanding VVFC Compliance

Blue Ridge Medical Center, Arrington  
Carilion Pediatric Clinic, Roanoke  
Hampton Roads Pediatrics, Hampton  
Hispanic American Pediatric Assoc., Alexandria  
Hispanic American Pediatric Assoc., Falls Church  
Kids First Pediatrics of Stafford, Stafford  
Martha Jefferson - Afton Family Med., Afton  
New River Valley Pediatrics, Blacksburg  
Partners in Pediatric Care, Virginia Beach  
Pediatric Assoc. of Charlottesville, Charlottesville  
Pediatric Diagnostic Center, Norfolk  
Port Warwick Pediatrics, Newport News  
Practice of Dr. Sebastian, Alexandria  
Royal Oak Pediatric Associates, Marion

### Immunization Champion

Tidewater Children's Associates (TCA) maintains impeccable standards of immunization pediatric care and has provided community leadership on immunization advocacy for over 40 years.

TCA has been using the Virginia Immunization Information System (VIIS) since 2009. TCA ensures their patients are protected against vaccine-preventable diseases by utilizing reporting features in the VIIS registry. As a result, the Chesapeake, Norfolk and Suffolk offices have maintained immunization coverage rates of at least 90% for the last four years.

Office Manager Karen Price believes TCA's success can be attributed to having a well trained work force. As a former nurse manager, Ms. Price is a spokesperson, advocate, and educator for immunization policy advancements. As advocates and educators, she and her team promote timely vaccinations and are readily prepared to address immunization concerns expressed by the families they serve. See this link for more:

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/immunization/vfc/champion.htm>

### Process Improvement

Sentara Pediatric Physicians in Virginia Beach has worked very hard on proper storage and handling techniques and staff education. Staff have completed all the CDC online training and have certificates of completion posted. They have also started monthly mandatory inventories and purchased new stand-alone units with data loggers.