



## **PA VFC PROVIDER**

Pennsylvania Department of Health,  
Bureau of Communicable Diseases, Division of Immunizations

**May 25, 2016**

### **Pentacel Manufacturing Delay-Update**

Sanofi Pasteur has updated the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) about a manufacturing delay of the Pentacel<sup>®</sup> vaccine (DTaP-IPV/Hib combination). This has led to a decreased **vaccine allocations for Pennsylvania's Vaccine for Children (PA VFC) Program and in turn, the number of doses received by PA VFC providers will be reduced accordingly.** This delay has been extended and is expected to continue through 2016.

Single-antigen DTaP, IPV and Hib vaccines, as well as, alternative combination vaccines are available for ordering to meet provider demands. Doses for your patients should NOT be deferred or delayed. To expedite orders, please ensure that all shipments received are indicated in PA-SIIS as accepted and inventories have been reconciled properly. Your inventory on hand should match what is in your refrigerator and freezer.

If you have any questions about your VFC order, please contact the PA VFC Program at (888) 646-6864.

### **2016 PA VFC Program Provider Handbook**

The PA VFC Program is pleased to announce that the “**2016 PA VFC Program Provider Handbook**” will be distributed via the US Postal Service and available on the PA VFC website during the month of June 2016. The Provider Handbook is a comprehensive guide which outlines the procedures and requirements for participation in the PA VFC program. It also contains all necessary programmatic forms and documents.

Call the PA VFC toll free line at 888-646-6864 for any questions or assistance.

## **Vaccine Borrowing**

VFC enrolled facilities must maintain adequate inventories of vaccine to administer to both privately insured and VFC-eligible children. Borrowing of vaccine between the two vaccine inventories must be a rare, and unplanned occurrence. Borrowing vaccine must be due to unforeseen delays or circumstances surrounding the vaccine that was ordered.

The Vaccine Borrowing Report must be completed when either:

- Privately purchased vaccine is administered to a VFC-eligible child, or
- VFC vaccine is administered to a privately insured child.

The Vaccine Borrowing report must be kept at the provider site for review by the immunization nurse during VFC site visits. Borrowing should only occur when there is a lack of appropriately stocked vaccine (VFC or provider purchased) due to unexpected circumstances, such as a delayed vaccine shipment, vaccine spoiled in-transit, or new staff error. In order for children to receive vaccines through the VFC program, eligibility screening and documentation must take place at each immunization visit prior to immunization.

## **Digital Data Loggers - Clear Function**

Do you have a Lascar Digital Data Logger (DDL) Model# EL-USB-TP-LCD? Did you know this model DDL should be cleared after documenting the morning and afternoon readings? After you record temperatures simply press and hold the button on the DDL unit until “Clr” appears in the display. Next, press the button again to clear the min/max temperatures. The current temperature will temporarily display and “---“ as the min/max. The dashed lines will eventually be overridden with the most current min/max temperature.

Most models have a clear function, but please refer to Section 6H for additional instructions. Finally, the best calibration is annual; however, as stated in “PA VFC Handbook Section 4.4” the PADOH will accept the manufacturer’s suggestion of calibration to not exceed two years.

## **Question of the Month?**

**Question:** What do you do if you are experiencing PA-SIIS connection problems, login ID or password issues?

**Answer:** Please contact PA-SIIS directly at 1-877-774-4748 for assistance. Listen to the pre-recorded message and selection options to choose the correct PA-SIIS representative assigned to your geographic area. Please provide a detailed description for the issue so the representative can better assist you.