



PROVIDER UPDATE

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

September 11, 2014

Delivery Changes

McKesson Specialty, VFC's national vaccine distributor will now offer Monday vaccine deliveries during times of high volume shipping, in order to ensure that both non-frozen and frozen vaccines are delivered to providers in a timely manner. VFC providers must access PA-SIIS and ensure that their Monday shipping hours are current. Provider facilities that **DO NOT** wish to receive shipments on Mondays must leave the shipping hours blank for that day to avoid receiving Monday shipments.

2014 PA VFC Program Satisfaction Survey

As a Pennsylvania Vaccines for Children (PA VFC) program provider, your opinion is important to the continued success of the PA VFC program. In an effort to improve the quality of the PA VFC program we are requesting that your medical facility complete the "2014 Pennsylvania Vaccines for Children (PA VFC) Program Satisfaction Survey". Since 2011, the PA VFC program has conducted an annual statewide survey of its enrolled facilities.

Please have the VFC Coordinator or office staff most familiar with the PA VFC Program complete the survey by **October 15, 2014**. The survey should take a few minutes to complete and any information you provide will be managed confidentially. Responses to the survey should be based on your VFC Program experiences **during the 2013 calendar year**. Since the validity of the results depends on obtaining a high response rate, we have conveniently made the survey available online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GDXWBLS>.

The objective of the survey is to assess provider program satisfaction of PA VFC Providers enrolled in the PA VFC Program. If you have any questions or concerns about completing the survey, you may contact me at (717) 787-5681 or wflaming@pa.gov

When Placing A VFC Order

- Order by number of **doses needed** – NOT by number of packages
- Orders should be placed between the 1st to the 15th of a site's designated ordering period (also known as EOQ). If you need to change your EOQ, please contact the VFC program at 888-646-6864.
- In order to prevent delays with your vaccine requests, please remember to reconcile your inventory for all VFC vaccines before placing your order.
- If ordering Prevnar 13, please select PNU-13 on the ordering screen.
- Private sites: only order vaccines listed as CHILD or PED
- Public sites: make sure to order only the ADULT (ADU) vaccines for the non-VFC eligible patient population.

Influenza Vaccine Ordering

When placing influenza vaccine orders please continue to use the **2014-2015 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Order Form** mailed to your facility during the week of June 1st. Please **do not** place influenza vaccine orders through the PA-SIIS Online Ordering system. Completed order forms for influenza vaccine may be Emailed to paimmunizations@pa.gov or faxed to (717) 441-3777 or (717) 441-3800. Distribution of the influenza vaccine should begin in October.

Vaccine Wastage and Return

When reporting nonviable VFC vaccine to the Division of Immunization; the following are a few things to remember.

- Complete the two page **Vaccine Return and Accountability Form** and fax to 717-214-7223.
- Please be sure to wait for the **Vaccine Return ID** number which is generated for each specific return. The ID number will be faxed or Emailed to you.
- Please place the Vaccine Return ID number on the **Vaccine Return and Accountability Form**.
- A UPS label will be mailed to your facility, allow 7-10 business days to receive the UPS label from McKesson Specialty Distribution.
- Record all unopened vials/boxes of non-viable vaccine on page one (including Varicella and Influenza) and then return to McKesson Specialty Distribution.
- Record all wasted open vials on page two of the return form and then discard those vials of nonviable vaccine according to your Biohazard Waste Disposal process.
- Fax the completed **Vaccine Incident Report & Worksheet and Vaccine Return Form** to the Vaccine Manager, Division of Immunizations, (717) 214-7223 within five days of the incident

Nonviable vaccine must be accounted for during inventory reconciliation. The Vaccine Return and Accountability Form is not to be used to return privately purchased vaccine.

PA VFC Question of the Month

Question: The VFC program requires a standalone freezer effective January 2015. What brand or size does the freezer need to be?

The VFC program does not recommend a certain brand or size of freezers. The storage units can vary in size, from a compact, under the counter style to a large, standalone, pharmaceutical grade. VFC facilities make the decision concerning the purchase based upon budget, and specific capacity needs of the clinical practice. Please contact the Immunization Nurse in your county or district for approval prior to purchasing a new freezer.