



## **PA VFC PROVIDER**

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

**September 9, 2016**

### **VFC Annual Training Requirement due October 1<sup>st</sup>**

PA VFC providers must complete educational trainings on proper storage and handling of VFC vaccine by October 1, 2016. **Both the VFC contact and the back-up contact are required to complete annual education. Ways to meet the CDC requirement for annual education:**

1. During current calendar year, receive one VFC site visit which could be:
  - having a VFC compliance visit with the immunization nurse, or
  - requesting an annual provider training with the immunization nurse
2. By **October 1, 2016**, complete **both** of the following 2016 CDC required provider annual educations:
  - view both CDC “You Call the Shots” programs, and printing credentials from CDC website
  - Vaccines for Children (<http://www2a.cdc.gov/nip/isd/ycts/mod1/courses/vfc/ce.asp>) scroll to bottom of page and click "continue" to start program and next view
  - Vaccine Storage and Handling (<http://www2a.cdc.gov/nip/isd/ycts/mod1/courses/sh/ce.asp>) scroll to bottom of page and click "continue" to start program.
3. By **October 1, 2016**, complete the Annual Provider Training and upon completion access the SurveyMonkey hyperlink provided on PA VFC website at VFC Provider Training 2016. After completing each survey simply print the provided certificates, fax or email a copy to your immunization nurse, document the training in the “**Education Roster**” (Section 6A) of the PA VFC Provider Handbook and retain for three years.

### **Hiberix Approved as a 3-Dose Primary Vaccination**

Effective immediately, the PA Vaccines for Children Program has made Hiberix [Haemophilus b Conjugate Vaccine (Tetanus Toxoid Conjugate)] vaccine available for ordering through PA-SIIS. Earlier this year the manufacturer of Hiberix (GlaxoSmithKline) received approval from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to expand use of Hiberix for a 3-dose infant primary vaccination series at ages 2, 4, and 6 months. As previously recommended, a single booster dose should be administered to children aged 15 months through 18 months; to facilitate timely booster vaccination.

For more information regarding Hiberix expanded use and to review the Hiberix, Vaccine Information Statement please click on the following hyperlinks [Hiberix Prescribing Information.PDF](#), or the latest MMWR article <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6516a3.htm>. If you should have any questions or concerns please contact the Division of Immunizations at (888) 646-6864.

## **New Flu Information for 2016-2017**

Getting an annual flu vaccine is the first and best way to protect yourself and your family from the flu. Flu vaccination can reduce flu illnesses, doctors' visits, and missed work and school due to flu, as well as prevent flu-related hospitalizations. The more people who get vaccinated, the more people will be protected from flu, including older people, very young children, pregnant women and people with certain health conditions who are more vulnerable to serious flu complications.

For the 2016-2017 season, CDC recommends use of inactivated influenza vaccine or IIV and the recombinant influenza vaccine (RIV). The nasal spray flu vaccine (live attenuated influenza vaccine or LAIV) should not be used during 2016-2017. The [2016-2017 influenza vaccination recommendations\(http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/rr/rr6505a1.htm?s\\_cid=rr6505a1\\_w\)](#) are now available. The following is a hyperlink to the PA VFC available influenza vaccines [Influenza Ordering Form](#). If you should have any questions or concerns please contact the Division of Immunizations at (888) 646-6864.

## **Question of the Month?**

### **Question:**

*Are children enrolled in the PA Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP) eligible to receive VFC vaccines?*

### **Answer:**

No. Children enrolled in the CHIP program are considered fully insured and are NOT eligible to receive VFC vaccines.