



June 1, 2018

Dear Vaccines for Children Provider:

The Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH), Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program has ordered influenza vaccine in preparation for the 2018-2019 Influenza Season. The influenza vaccine is for distribution to, State Health Centers (SHC), County-Municipal Health Departments (CMHD), Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC), Rural Health Clinics (RHC), and private VFC providers.

Distribution of the influenza vaccine will most likely begin in September or October. Ordering influenza vaccine will be done by paper form as in years past. DOH VFC staff will enter the influenza order in PA SIIS on behalf of each provider. To ensure that providers are able to obtain an adequate amount of vaccine, please indicate the number of anticipated doses on the *Influenza Vaccine Ordering Form* included with this letter.

Any additional requests may be placed throughout the rest of the influenza season by completing and submitting a separate paper order. This will ensure that your influenza order reflects the current needs of your practice while avoiding having to try to predict influenza vaccine needs several months ahead of time. As with every influenza season, orders will be completed based on the supply of vaccine available. (Note: Please make copies of the vaccine order form if you anticipate multiple requests).

Also, please be sure to review your organization's formulary and order only the vaccines on your formulary and in your EMR.

Please submit your **pre-booked** orders by **July 27, 2018**. Completed order forms for influenza vaccine may be emailed to paimmunizations@pa.gov or faxed to (717) 441-3777 or (717) 441-3800.

Influenza vaccine obtained through the Department may only be provided to those persons 6 months of age and older who are eligible to receive VFC vaccines.

Special Initiative-Adult Flu Vaccine: In preparation for the 2018-2019 influenza season, Section 317 adult influenza vaccines will be offered to the following public health care providers: SHC, CMHD, FQHC, and RHC. Please refer to the ordering form for the three presentations that are available for adults age 19 years or older that are uninsured or underinsured.

The Influenza Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) that must be provided to each person receiving the influenza vaccine is located on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis. The most recent Influenza VIS is usually posted on this website by July.

Please direct any questions regarding influenza vaccine ordering to Debi Trumper and clinical questions to Leisa Spence at (717) 787-5681.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Thomas M. McCleaf'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the 'f'.

Thomas M. McCleaf
Director
Division of Immunizations

Enclosure