

Vaccines for Children

Program Updates

January 20, 2017

Revised VFC Storage Requirements for 2017 & 2018

Storage Unit Requirement: As a reminder, as of 1/1/16 clinic sites who store and administer Varicella and Proquad are no longer allowed to store frozen vaccines in the freezer section of a household refrigerator unit. Sites found in non-compliance to this requirement will be suspended pending purchase of a stand-alone unit for frozen vaccine storage.

Backup Thermometer Requirement: Clinics are required to store at least one backup thermometer to be used in the event of an emergency, during vaccine transport or as a backup when thermometers are sent out for recalibration. Both this requirement and the storage unit requirement will be checked during your annual visit this year.

Digital Data Logger (DDL) Requirement: To comply with recent studies conducted by the CDC, the Georgia VFC Program will require clinic sites to purchase continuous monitoring and recording digital data loggers, with a current and valid Certificate of Calibration, for storing public vaccine supply effective January 1, 2018.

As of January 1, 2017, all new providers will be required to purchase DDLs as their primary and backup thermometers.

Existing providers will be required to replace their backup thermometers with digital data loggers when the current Certificate of Calibration expires. Immunization Regional Consultants (IRCs, formerly IPCs) will follow up with sites and create a plan for implementation during this year's annual site visits. For more information regarding the specifications for data logger purchases, review the section on storage equipment in the CDC Storage and Handling Toolkit found here:

www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/admin/storage/toolkit/storage-handling-toolkit.pdf

or by visiting the American Academy of Pediatrics Resources page at:

www.aap.org/en-us/Documents/immunization_dataloggers.pdf

2017 - 2018 Flu Pre-Book Survey is Closed

Clinic sites who missed the January 8 deadline to pre-book flu doses may submit late requests via the Pre-Book Wait List: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FLUWL>. As a reminder, doses booked beyond the deadline cannot be guaranteed.

Only one survey can be completed per computer. When submitting requests, use the previous years' doses administered and billing data to determine vaccine estimates. Consider doses needed to vaccinate both your VFC and PeachCare for kids eligible patients 0 through 18 years of age. You will need your VFC PIN #, contact

Vaccine Updates

Recombivax® Syringes on backorder until Spring '17. Select Recombivax vials or switch to Engerix® as an alternate.

Vaqta® Syringes on backorder until Spring '17. Select Vaqta vials or switch to Havrix® as an alternate.

Additional Vaccine Requests: VFC will approve requests up to 30 doses over the amount listed as "doses presumed needed". Requests in excess of 30 require an email justification. Submit requests via email to dph-gavfc@dph.ga.gov.

Frozen Vaccine Storage: As of 1/1/16, household combination units cannot be used to store frozen vaccines.

Contact Us

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DPH-gavfc@dph.ga.gov



Vaccine Updates

Pentacel[®] has returned to full supply and can now be selected as a preference for providers who made the switch to Pediarix[®] when the shortage was announced. VFC prefers that providers use only one of the two combination vaccines so it is best to spend down your vaccine inventories when making the transition to a different brand. VFC staff will review orders to ensure that orders appear to decrease for one vaccine as they increase for the other. You may contact VFC to explain any special circumstances you may have that require inventories of both Pediarix and Pentacel and include supporting justification including protocols to ensure errors in vaccine administration are avoided.

HPV, now available as the 9-valent Gardasil 9, traditionally has been given in a three-dose series, but the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently approved a two-dose series for children ages 9-14 yrs. The ACIP now recommends a two-dose schedule for children younger than 15 years of age who are starting vaccination, with the second dose administered six to 12 months after the first dose. Those starting vaccination at age 15-26 yrs. should receive three doses. ACIP continues to recommend routine vaccination at age 11-12 yrs., though the vaccine can be given as early as 9 years of age. For those starting the series at age 15-26 yrs. and for immunocompromised people, a three-dose series is recommended. The second dose should be given one to two months after the first dose, and the third dose should be given six months after the first dose.

Those who already started the series with any HPV vaccine will be considered adequately vaccinated if they:

- ⇒ started before their 15th birthday and received two doses with the second dose six to 12 months after the first or
- ⇒ started before their 15th birthday and received three doses at the recommended dosing schedule or
- ⇒ started on or after their 15th birthday and received three doses at the recommended dosing schedule

Click on the link below for more information:

For more information on the use of a 2-Dose Schedule for Human Papillomavirus Vaccination click on the following link: https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6549a5.htm?s_cid=mm6549a5_e

GRITS has been updated to reflect appropriate forecasting for the new HPV two-dose series for ages 9-14 yrs. GRITS will also accurately validate previous doses given if the series started prior to age 15. For example, if a client who is currently 16 years of age and received 1 valid dose prior to age 15, the record will accurately reflect 1 of 2 doses given. If the client received 2 doses prior to age 15, the record will reflect complete if the appropriate interval between the 2 HPV doses have been met, if not then the forecast will be for a 3 dose HPV series.

Mumps Health Advisory

The Georgia Department of Public Health has issued a Mumps Advisory encouraging healthcare providers to consider mumps in person with acute parotitis, unexplained by another more likely diagnosis, regardless of vaccination history. The Health Advisory reviews reporting mumps cases to DPH, the appropriate laboratory testing, and vaccination recommendations. You can find the Mumps Health Advisory on the GRITS Announcement page : https://www.gritstest.state.ga.us/docs/Mumps_DPH_HAN_FINAL.pdf



Flu Season 2016-2017 Brand, Presentation and CPT

CPT	NDC	Brand	Presentation	VFC Age Group
90685	49281-0516-25	Fluzone® - Quad	Single Dose Syringe	6-35 months
90686	49281-0416-10	Fluzone® - Quad	Single Dose Vial	3-18 years
90686	49281-0416-50	Fluzone® - Quad	Single Dose Syringe	3-18 years
90687/90688*	49281-0625-15	Fluzone® - Quad	Multidose Vial	6 months -18 years
90686	58160-0905-52	Fluarix® - Quad	Single Dose Syringe	3-18 years
90688	19515-0903-11	FluLaval® - Quad	Multidose Vial	*6 months -18 years

*FluLaval® is now an approved .5mL dose for ages 6 months and older

VFC Storage and Handling - Revised Vaccine Incident Report

VFC clinic sites are required to complete a report whenever vaccine temperatures fall out of range due to a vaccine incident which can include the following:

- Power outages
- Storage unit malfunction
- Storing vaccine at the incorrect temperature (frozen vaccine refrigerated)
- Any negligent or non-negligent event that causes vaccines temperatures to exceed minimum and maximum temperature requirements for more than a few hours

The Vaccine Incident Report includes instructions for completing the form and submitting to the VFC Program for review. The report will be reviewed to determine any follow up corrective actions if needed. A copy of the revised report is available from the GRITS Home Page under the Resources section. Copy and paste the following link into your web browser to access the form:

www.gritstest.state.ga.us/docs/12_Vaccine_Incident_Report_Rev_1102017.pdf

**DID YOU
KNOW?**

Clinic sites are required to store water bottles in the refrigerator to help stabilize temperatures throughout the unit. Newly released CDC emergency transport guidelines require transportation of vaccines with conditioned water bottles. To ensure that frozen water bottles are available during an emergency, VFC recommends storing water bottles in the freezer compartment of your storage units in place of ice packs. Click on the link below for more information regarding emergency transport. As a reminder, vaccines cannot be transported without first notifying the VFC Program.

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/admin/storage/downloads/emergency-transport.pdf>

Field Staff Changes

The Immunization Program has recently made changes to the coverage areas for field representatives formerly called Immunization Program Consultants (IPCs). Your field representatives are now Immunization Regional Consultants or IRCs. The role of the IRC has not changed and they will continue to conduct VFC Compliance, Storage & Handling and all VFC support visits. Compliance visits will now be conducted on an annual basis in an effort to continue to improve VFC quality assurance.

Below is the list of regional areas, counties covered and assigned IRC. Please note that 4 regional positions are currently vacant and will be filled in the near future. If you are located in a vacant region and need immediate assistance please contact the VFC Program.

Region 1: Rome - Vacant

Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Pickens, Polk, Walker, Whitfield

Region 2: Gainesville – Immunization Regional Consultant: Farrah Machida (470) 891-0511

Banks, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union, White

Region 3: Cobb/Douglas – Vacant

Cobb, Douglas, Paulding, Cherokee

Region 4: Fulton/Clayton - Immunization Regional Consultant: Saron Ephraim (404) 387-9369

Fulton, Clayton

Region 5: Gwinnett – Vacant

Region 6: DeKalb – Immunization Regional Consultant: Janet Kelly (404) 277-2461

DeKalb, Rockdale, Newton

Region 7: LaGrange – Immunization Regional Consultant: Tina Dempsey (404) 277-6442

Counties included: Butts, Carroll, Coweta, Heard, Lamar, Meriwether, Pike, Spalding, Troup, Fayette, Henry

Region 8: Dublin/Macon – Immunization Regional Consultant: Kelly Duke (404) 277-9414

Baldwin, Bibb, Bleckley, Dodge, Crawford, Hancock, Houston, Jasper, Jeff Davis, Johnson, Jones, Laurens, Monroe, Montgomery, Peach, Putnam, Telfair, Twiggs, Toombs, Treutlen, Washington, Wheeler, Wilkinson

Region 9: Augusta – IRC: Shelia Fultz (404) 387-5476

Bulloch, Burke, Candler, Columbia, Emanuel, Glascock, Jefferson, Jenkins, Lincoln, McDuffie, Richmond, Screven, Taliaferro, Warren, Wilkes

Region 10: Columbus – Immunization Regional Consultant: Kelly Seegmueller (404) 277-3179

Calhoun, Chattahoochee, Clay, Crisp, Dooly, Early, Harris, Lee, Macon, Marion, Muscogee, Pulaski, Quitman, Randolph, Schley, Stewart, Sumter, Talbot, Taylor, Terrell, Upson, Webster, Wilcox

Region 11: Valdosta, Albany – Immunization Regional Consultant: Lisa Jenkins (404) 615-2427

Atkinson, Baker, Ben Hill, Berrien, Brooks, Colquitt, Clinch, Coffee, Cook, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Echols, Grady, Irwin, Lanier, Lowndes, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Thomas, Tift, Turner, Worth

Region 12: Savannah, Brunswick, Waycross - Vacant

Appling, Bacon, Brantley, Bryan, Camden, Charlton, Chatham, Effingham, Evans, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Pierce, Tattnall, Ware, Wayne

Region 13: Athens – Immunization Regional Consultant: Angie Webster (404) 277-8923

Barrow, Clarke, Elbert, Greene, Jackson, Madison, Morgan, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Walton