



## Important News from the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (SAMHD)

June 29, 2009

---

### **VFC INFORMATION UPDATE**

**This message will bring you an update on some important VFC related subjects.**

#### **NEW VFC PROGRAM COORDINATOR NAMED**

SAMHD is pleased to announce that on June 6<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Kenya Wilson was named the new SAMHD VFC Program Coordinator succeeding Ms. Vivian Flores, who was promoted to SAMHD Immunization Program Manager last year. Many of you know Ms. Wilson from her previous role as the VFC QA/AFIX Program Supervisor. Kenya's many years with the QA/AFIX Program has given her many unique insights that will serve as valuable tools in her new position.

#### **REINSTATEMENT OF 4 DOSE HIB SCHEDULE**

Effective July 1, 2009, CDC will reinstate the 4-dose Hib vaccine schedule to again include the Hib booster for children 12-15 months of age (basis series; 2, 4, & 6 mos). CDC will be revising SAMHD's allocation for the Hib-containing products (ActHIB and Pentacel) in preparation for this programmatic change. However, at this time, supplies will not be sufficient to support any type of active recall or catch-up efforts for those children whom the booster was deferred. You will be asked to provide the booster dose of Hib to those patients at their next routinely schedules visit or medical encounter.

Providers are asked to include the additional dose (4<sup>th</sup> dose) of their respective Hib-containing product in their next ordering cycle. Please note if you are using Pentacel you should not be ordering an ActHIB product. Special or separate orders for Hib should not be submitted. Vaccine Management will use historical data prior to the temporary suspension of the booster dose to monitor vaccine ordering to limit possible over-ordering situations. For more information on this, please see the following CDC website:

[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5824a5.htm?s\\_cid=mm5824a15e](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5824a5.htm?s_cid=mm5824a15e)

#### **IMPORTANCE OF REPORTING SHORT DATED VACCINE**

It is vital that all VFC enrolled providers take care when conducting inventory of VFC stock, which should be completed at least once a month. Vaccine that is short dated (due to expire) in 90 days should be reported to the VFC program immediately. (Anthony Johnson, VFC Vaccine Manager 207-4015, Valerie Rodriguez, VFC Administrative Associate 207-4308, or Kenya Wilson, VFC Coordinator 207-3974) By doing this, you will assist our program in getting viable vaccine to another provider office that can use the vaccine before it has to be wasted. Any vaccine that a facility allows to expire without notifying VFC Staff will be totaled and charged to the facility. The federal funds that sustain the VFC Program are limited and are determined annually based on population estimates of VFC eligible children in Bexar County. As a result, the VFC Program cannot absorb any vaccine losses, as the Federal VFC Program does not replenish lost or wasted vaccines.

## **SAMHD VACCINE RETURN POLICY**

Prior to any return of **non-viable VFC vaccine** to McKesson, providers must follow the procedures stated below:

- 1) Non-viable VFC vaccine (wasted or expired) should be separated from all viable vaccine.
- 2) Label non-viable VFC vaccine **DO NOT USE** and remove it from the refrigerator/freezer.
- 3) **Contact the VFC program** to inform staff of the situation. Anthony Johnson, VFC Vaccine Manager (207-4015), Valerie Rodriguez, VFC Administrative Associate (207-4308), or Kenya Wilson, VFC Coordinator (207-3974).
- 4) Complete a **SAMHD VFC Vaccine Return Packing Slip** for wasted or expired vaccines and fax it to (210) 224-5710, Attn: VFC Program.

Vaccines should not be returned to McKesson until the VFC Vaccine Manager has had an opportunity to review and approve the vaccine return packing slip. This helps to ensure only VFC issued vaccines are being returned to McKesson.

\*Please note to **NEVER** return the following items to McKesson: syringes that have been pre-filled but not used, used syringes with or without needles attached (unused Norvartis Fluvirin pre-filled syringes with staked needles are the ONLY items that can be returned with a needle), broken vaccine vials, multi-dose vials from which some doses have been withdrawn but not completely used. These items should be disposed of according to usual medical bio-safety procedures.

## **CONSENT FORMS**

Please carefully screen all consent forms prior to sending them into our office on a weekly basis to ensure all information is being filled out completely. SAMHD registry staff has received numerous consent forms with the following issues:

- 1) **Unclear labels** – When using labels on consent forms that provide patients demographic information, please ensure they are legible for registry staff responsible for data entry. Review all forms to ensure important demographic information is not cut off and ink is not too light/faded.
- 2) **Missing Date of Birth** – Ensure that patient's DOB is provided and correct. SAMHD registry staff is receiving a lot of consent forms with the date of birth slot left blank or guardian writing the current day's date instead of the patient's birth date.
- 3) **Missing Lot Numbers** – If a shot is administered, lot number(s) have to be recorded on the consent form. Please take care to ensure that you are recording the correct lot number belonging to the vaccine administered. This will be of great importance to you should a vaccine recall occur in the future.
- 4) **Missing Patient Insurance/VFC Category** – Please ensure that each consent form has patient insurance/VFC category specified which is a requirement for accounting purposes. If a patient is eligible for the VFC program by way of Medicaid or CHIP, please select the box and provide the policy number. You will need to select the box if a patient is privately insured however; you do not have to report the company name and policy number.
- 5) **Missing Signature** – If the guardian's signature is missing, the consent form cannot be processed. If the administering nurse's signature is missing, the form will be returned to your clinic.

- 6) **Recording Two Lot Numbers for Pentacel** – The lot numbers of the Pentacel components are linked so that the lot number of one component will identify the lot number of the other component. If Pentacel is used as supplied, there is no need to record both lot numbers-the carton lot number and the tear off lot number on the Hib vial (which are identical) is adequate and identifies all components. If administering Pentacel, use the Hib vial lot number when completing the consent form.

**Lastly and the most important**, please ensure that guardians understand that they need to check one of the boxes listed below to ensure that their child(ren) vaccines are added to the registry.

I **GRANT** consent for registration. I wish to **INCLUDE** my child's information in the San Antonio Immunization Registry System (**SAIRS**). I agree, this is my preferred language.

**DOY CONSENTIMIENTO** a la registraci3n. Deseo **INCLUIR** la informaci3n de mi ni1o(a) en el Sistema de Registro de Vacunaci3n de San Antonio (**SAIRS**). Yo estoy de acuerdo, este es mi idioma de preferencia.

If you have any questions pertaining to this information, please contact Derek Taylor (207-2089) at the SAIRS Registry Program.

### **VACCINE AND IMMUNIZATION EDUCATION AND TRAINING SITE NOW AVAILABLE**

As promised in a previous Blast Fax, SAMHD Immunization Division now has a section on its website devoted to vaccine and immunization education and training resources that health care providers and partners will find most useful. It can be found in the *Vaccine and Immunization Education and Training* section of our homepage. Take a look! It is located at:  
<http://www.sanantonio.gov/health/immunizations.html>

If you have any questions pertaining to this information, please contact Kenya Wilson (207-3974) or Anthony Johnson (207-4015) at the VFC Program.