



Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program

PROGRAM UPDATES

August/September 2011

- **Kinrix®:** Kinrix is now available. Providers who already received their scheduled order can request Kinrix in their next **scheduled** order. The VFC Program supplied providers with equitable amounts of DTaP and Polio vaccines.
- **ProQuad®:** ProQuad is not available at this time. The VFC Program will notify providers through blast fax when it can be ordered again.
- **Cervarix®:** Cervarix is only available in syringe presentation. GlaxoSmithKline has discontinued distributing the vaccine in vials.
- **2011-2012 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine:** The VFC Program is sending out the first wave of 2011-2012 seasonal influenza vaccine. As we did last year, we will be sending out flu vaccine in waves to providers as we receive inventory from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Providers who submitted a pre-book order earlier this year will receive the vaccine first. If you were not enrolled in the VFC Program or did not submit a pre-book order, the VFC Program will work to accommodate your request.
- **Keep Your Vaccine Safe:** Now that the 2011 hurricane season has begun, providers should take the time to review and update their *Emergency Response Plan* in order to minimize loss of VFC Program vaccine in the event of a hurricane. A sample plan can be found on the VFC Program web site, http://www.ImmunizeFlorida.org/vfc/provider_manual/emergency_response_plan.pdf. Providers should have back-up generators or a location that has one where vaccine can be stored safely. Providers are responsible for all VFC Program vaccine that is in their possession should an emergency occur. **Most vaccine may be viable despite exposure to an out-of-range temperature excursion. The vaccine manufacturer will be able to provide further guidance. VFC Program providers will be held responsible for viable vaccine discarded without direction from the VFC Program.**
- **Check Your Order:** McKesson Specialty has changed the format of the packing slip included in VFC Program orders. The information contained on the new packing slip is the same as the previous one. Make sure to check the contents of the shipped package against the packing slip to ensure you have received the correct amount of vaccine.
- **Kudos!:** The VFC Program congratulates Brevard Health Alliance on their quick response when they discovered the temperature in their refrigerator had risen to 72°F. They moved the vaccine to another refrigerator that was working and contacted the vaccine manufacturers to find out if the vaccine was still viable. They were able to save VFC Program vaccine worth over \$9,600 and only lost 9 doses. Thank you Brevard Health Alliance!
- **Storage Tip:** Review the expiration dates on your vaccine. Place vaccines that expire sooner in the front of the shelf. Contact the VFC Program if you have vaccine that will expire in three months so that it might be placed with another VFC Program provider who could use it.
- **VFC Contact Information:**
 - Telephone: (800) 483-2543
 - Fax: (850) 245-4734
 - Email: FloridaVFC@doh.state.fl.us
 - Fraud and Abuse Hotline: (866) 373-0644
 - Website: www.ImmunizeFlorida.org/vfc/index.html

