

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Jewel Mullen, M.D., M.P.H., M.P.A.  
Commissioner



Dannel P. Malloy  
Governor  
Nancy Wyman  
Lt. Governor

## Immunization Program

**PLEASE COPY THIS FOR ALL HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS  
IN YOUR PRACTICE**

**TO: All Users of State Supplied Vaccine**

**FROM: Mick Bolduc-Vaccine Coordinator, Connecticut Vaccine Program (CVP)** 

**DATE: March 26, 2013**

**SUBJECT: DTaP/IPV/Hib (Pentacel®) vaccine supply**

The primary purpose of this communication is to provide you with an update on the temporary shortage of DTaP/IPV/Hib (Pentacel®) vaccine.

### **DTaP/IPV/Hib supply**

The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) and Sanofi Pasteur have provided the Connecticut Vaccine Program with an update on the temporary shortage of Sanofi Pasteur's DTaP/IPV/Hib vaccine (brand name Pentacel®). Sanofi had originally planned to make additional doses available in April 2013. However, as a result of an unexpected delay in the process needed to release new doses of Pentacel®, additional doses will not be available until June 2013 with a full return to market of Pentacel® expected in September of this year. A letter from Sanofi to health care providers is included with this memo. Due to this new delay, **no Pentacel® doses will be available for providers to order from the Connecticut Vaccine Program in April and May.**

Providers will need to continue to order single antigen DTaP, IPV, and Hib vaccines as well as GlaxoSmithKline's DTaP/IPV/Hep B combination vaccine (brand name Pediarix®) to ensure they have vaccine available to fully immunize children based on the recommended schedule. There is sufficient supply of DTaP, IPV, Hib and Pediarix® for all children to receive a complete series of all recommended vaccines. The CVP will update providers on when they can begin to order Pentacel® as more information becomes available.

Additional vaccine information and sample schedules using single component and combination vaccines for children who have already received one, two, or three doses of Pentacel® are available at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vac-gen/shortages/downloads/pentacel-guidance.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vac-gen/shortages/downloads/pentacel-guidance.pdf)

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (860) 509-7940.



March 2013

Dear Health Care Provider:

On behalf of Sanofi Pasteur, I am writing to provide you with an update on the availability of Pentacel® (Diphtheria and Tetanus Toxoids and Acellular Pertussis Adsorbed, Inactivated Poliovirus and Haemophilus b Conjugate [Tetanus Toxoid Conjugate] Vaccine) for your Vaccines for Children (VFC) patients. While we have made significant progress over the past several months in the manufacturing of Pentacel vaccine, we have recently experienced a delay in the process to gain release of the doses that we had planned to bring to the marketplace in April 2013. As a result, new doses of Pentacel vaccine are not expected to become available until June 2013. After additional doses of Pentacel vaccine are released, order allocations for both the public and private markets will be reinstated and are expected to remain in effect until early September 2013.

While this situation is not ideal, we want to assure you that ample supply of single-entity DAPTACEL® (Diphtheria and Tetanus Toxoids and Acellular Pertussis Vaccine Adsorbed), ActHIB® (Haemophilus b Conjugate Vaccine [Tetanus Toxoid Conjugate]), and IPOL® (Poliovirus Vaccine Inactivated) remains available to meet your immunization needs for diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis (DTaP), *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib), and inactivated poliovirus (IPV). We consider it a priority for health care providers to be able to immunize patients with the necessary pediatric vaccines, and we continue to work with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to maintain the recommended immunization schedule and ensure that the nation's vaccine supply is sufficient to meet market demand.

On behalf of Sanofi Pasteur, I would like to thank you for your continued patience and support throughout this supply situation. We understand the challenges that health care providers, patients, and parents face when there are limited supplies of vaccine. We want to assure you that Sanofi Pasteur is working tirelessly to help meet our customer's needs for our vaccines.

We look forward to continuing to partner with you to meet your immunization needs, and we thank you for your continued commitment to immunize infants and children against vaccine-preventable diseases.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact your Sanofi Pasteur representative or call 1-800-VACCINE (1-800-822-2463) to speak with a Sanofi Pasteur customer account representative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "William L. Averbeck".

William L. Averbeck  
Associate Vice President, Marketing US

Pentacel vaccine is manufactured by Sanofi Pasteur Limited and Sanofi Pasteur SA and distributed by Sanofi Pasteur Inc.  
DAPTACEL vaccine is manufactured by Sanofi Pasteur Limited and distributed by Sanofi Pasteur Inc.  
ActHIB and IPOL vaccines are manufactured by Sanofi Pasteur SA and distributed by Sanofi Pasteur Inc.

MKT26357-2