



VaxFacts

Immunization Review

Volume 4 Spring 2011

New School Immunization Requirements for Fall 2011



New regulatory changes to school immunization entry requirements were passed by the Regulations Review Committee of the state legislature in December 2010. The new requirements, which bring Connecticut requirements into agreement with national recommendations, are effective on August 1, 2011.

To update immunization providers of these revisions, the Immunization Program issued a vaccine policy memo which includes the changes these revisions have on VFC vaccine eligibility. To see the memo click on: http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/update_Tdap-menine_2-1-2011_combined.pdf

To achieve its goal of preventing disease, disability and death from vaccine-preventable diseases the Immunization Program:

- ◆ Provides vaccine to immunization providers throughout the state;
- ◆ Provides education for medical personnel and the general public;
- ◆ Works with providers using the immunization registry to assure that all children in their practices are fully immunized;
- ◆ Assures that children who are in day care, Head Start, and school are adequately immunized;
- ◆ Conducts surveillance to evaluate the impact of vaccination efforts and to identify groups that are at risk of vaccine-preventable diseases.

| Vaccine | Grade | # of Doses |
|---------------|---|--|
| Pneumococcal | Pre-K and K (born 1/1/2007 or later and less than 5 years old) | 1 dose on or after 1 st birthday |
| Hepatitis A | Pre-K and K (born 1/1/2007 or later) | 2 doses given six months apart - 1 st dose on or after 1 st birthday |
| Influenza | Pre-K (children age 24-59 months) given annually between August 1 st and December 31 st each year | 1 dose - (2 doses for those receiving flu vaccine for 1 st time) |
| MMR | K-12 | 2 doses given at least 28 days apart - 1 st dose on or after 1 st birthday |
| Varicella | Pre-K | 1 dose on or after 1 st birthday |
| Varicella | K and 7 th grade entry | 2 doses given 3 months apart - 1 st dose on or after 1 st birthday |
| Tdap | 7 th grade entry | 1 dose |
| Meningococcal | 7 th grade entry | 1 dose |

To view all of the school vaccination regulations with an explanation of what is acceptable proof of vaccination/disease for each vaccine click on: http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/school_regulations_2010.pdf.

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New Feature:

Best Practices



How many practices find completing page 2 of the Vaccine Order Form time-consuming?

How many of you have found at the time of a site visit that you are administering more vaccines than you have in inventory based on print-outs from the ordering program used by the state? If you are one of those practices, here are a few suggestions from area providers in Region 4:

- 1) Don't use page 2 of the Vaccine Order Form to track vaccines administered using "tick marks". Sometimes, when adding them you make errors or you might even put the marks in the wrong column. For example, MMR in the <1 year old line. In addition, fax machines have a tendency to add lines of their own.
- 2) Try using an Excel spreadsheet that documents the patient's name, patient's age at time of visit, vaccine administered as well as the number in the series (samples available if you would like). If you make an error, you can find it easily.

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Updated ACIP Recommendations

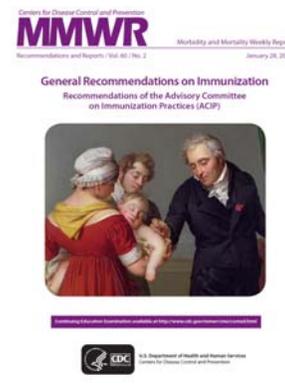
The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recently updated recommendations in three areas.

1. General Recommendations

On January 28, 2011, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published the *General Recommendations on Immunization: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)*, which is a revision of the 2006 general recommendations <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr6002.pdf>. ACIP recommendations for each vaccine and additional information about vaccinations are available from CDC at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines>.

Notable revisions to the 2006 recommendations include:

- Revisions to the tables of contraindications and precautions to vaccination, as well as a separate table of conditions that are commonly misperceived as contraindications and precautions;
- Reordering of the report content, with vaccine risk-benefit screening, managing adverse reactions, reporting of adverse events, and the vaccine injury compensation program presented immediately after the discussion of contraindications and precautions;
- Stricter criteria for selecting an appropriate vaccine storage unit;
- Additional guidance for maintaining the cold chain in the event of unavoidable temperature deviations; and
- Updated revisions for vaccination of patients who have received a hematopoietic cell transplant.



2. Tdap Recommendations

On October 27, 2010, ACIP approved the following recommendations:

- Use of Tdap regardless of interval since the last tetanus- or diphtheria-toxoid containing vaccine,
- Use of Tdap in certain adults aged 65 years and older, and
- Use of Tdap in under-vaccinated children aged 7 through 10 years.

For the complete report, see http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6001a4.htm?s_cid=mm6001a4_e&source=govdelivery.

3. Meningococcal Vaccination Recommendations

ACIP approved updated recommendations for the use of quadrivalent (serogroups A, C, Y, and W-135) meningococcal conjugate vaccines (Menveo from Novartis and Menactra from Sanofi Pasteur) in adolescents and persons at high risk for meningococcal disease. This report summarizes two new recommendations approved by

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ACIP:

- Routine vaccination of adolescents, preferably at age 11 or 12 years, with a booster dose at age 16 years, and
- A 2-dose primary series administered 2 months apart for persons aged 2 through 54 years with persistent complement component deficiency (e.g., C5-C9, properdin, factor H, or factor D) and functional or anatomic asplenia, and for adolescents and adults with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection.

For the complete report, see http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6003a3.htm?s_cid=mm6003a3_e&source=govdelivery

CDC Issues the 2011 Childhood, Adolescent and Adult Immunization Schedules

On February 4, 2011, CDC published the 2011 childhood, adolescent and adult immunization schedules. For information and copies of the schedules, go to <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules/default.htm>.

Changes to the childhood and adolescent schedules include:

- Guidance has been added for the hepatitis B vaccine schedule for children who did not receive a birth dose.
- Information on use of 13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine has been added.
- Guidance has been added for administration of 1 or 2 doses of seasonal influenza vaccine based upon the child's history of monovalent 2009 H1N1 vaccination.
- Use of tetanus and diphtheria toxoids and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine among children aged 7 through 10 years who are incompletely vaccinated against pertussis is addressed, and reference to a specified interval between tetanus and diphtheria toxoids (Td) and Tdap vaccination has been removed.
- Footnotes for the use of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine have been condensed.
- Routine 2-dose schedule of quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4) for certain persons at high risk for meningococcal disease, and recommendations for a booster dose of MCV4 have been added.
- Guidance for use of *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) vaccine in persons aged 5 years and older in the catch-up schedule has been condensed.

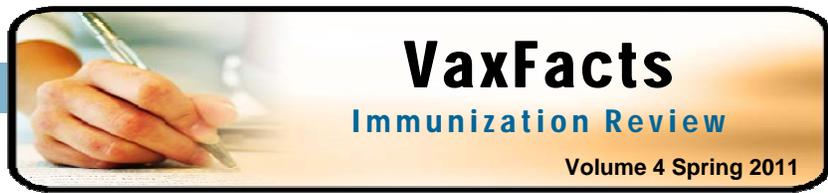
Recommended Immunization Schedule for Persons Aged 0 Through 6 Years—United States • 2011
For those who fall behind or start late, see the catch-up schedule

| Vaccine | Age | Birth | 1 month | 2 months | 4 months | 6 months | 12 months | 15 months | 18 months | 19-23 months | 2-3 years | 4-6 years |
|---|-----|-------|---------|----------|----------|----------|--------------------|-----------|---------------------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| Hepatitis B ¹ | | HepB | | | | | | | | | | |
| Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis ² | | | DTaP | DTaP | DTaP | DTaP | DTaP | | | | | DTaP |
| Haemophilus influenzae type b ³ | | | Hib | Hib | Hib | Hib | | | | | | |
| Pneumococcal ⁴ | | | PCV | PCV | PCV | PCV | | | | | | PPSV |
| Inactivated Poliovirus ⁵ | | | IPV | IPV | | | IPV | | | | | IPV |
| Influenza ⁶ | | | | | | | Influenza (Yearly) | | | | | |
| Masles, Mumps, Rubella ⁷ | | | | | | | MMR | | see footnote ⁸ | | | MMR |
| Varicella ⁹ | | | | | | | Varicella | | see footnote ⁸ | | | Varicella |
| Hepatitis A ¹⁰ | | | | | | | HepA (2 doses) | | | | | HepA Series |
| Meningococcal ¹¹ | | | | | | | | | | | | MCV4 |

For those who fall behind or start late, see the schedule below and the catch-up schedule

| Vaccine | Age | 7-10 years | 11-12 years | 13-18 years |
|---|-----|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis ² | | | Tdap | Tdap |
| Human Papillomavirus ³ | | see footnote ⁴ | HPV (2 doses/females) | HPV series |
| Meningococcal ⁵ | | MCV4 | MCV4 | MCV4 |
| Influenza ⁶ | | | Influenza (Yearly) | |
| Pneumococcal ⁷ | | | Pneumococcal | |
| Hepatitis A ⁸ | | | HepA Series | |
| Hepatitis B ⁹ | | | Hep B Series | |
| Inactivated Poliovirus ¹⁰ | | | IPV Series | |
| Masles, Mumps, Rubella ¹¹ | | | MMR Series | |
| Varicella ¹² | | | Varicella Series | |

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News:

The following were recent inquiries to the Immunization Program:

"I have a patient over age 19 on state insurance. Can I give them state-supplied VFC vaccine?"

The VFC program provides vaccine for individuals through the age of 18 (up until their 19th birthday). VFC vaccine cannot be used for people 19 years and older.

"What should I do with state supplied vaccine that I can't use?"

Once state-supplied vaccine is ordered and delivered to your office, you are responsible for managing the use of that vaccine. If you are not able to use all of your vaccine, it is your responsibility to transfer the vaccine to an office that can. Begin looking for an office that can use the vaccine at least several months before it expires. The Immunization Program can help identify offices that are in close proximity to your practice. You are responsible for contacting those offices to determine if they could use the vaccine. You also have to arrange to physically move the vaccine, keeping proper storage and handling of the vaccine while in transit. Once the vaccine is transferred, you must complete a vaccine transfer form: http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/infectious_diseases/immunization/2010/2010_vaccine_transfer_form_3_17_10.pdf.

If the vaccine can't be used before expiration, you may have to replace those doses at your cost. For more information, please review the Immunization Vaccine Restitution Policy http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/infectious_diseases/immunization/2010/connecticut_vaccine_restitution_policy_1_12_10_revised_combined.pdf.

Immunization Program Staff to Conduct Provider Site Visits

As part of the Immunization Program's annual grant with CDC, each state Immunization Program is now required to conduct an annual site visit to 50% of providers who participate in the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. Each year program staff, as well as local Immunization Action Plan (IAP) coordinators, will conduct site visits to half of the actively enrolled providers. The following year the remaining half will receive a site visit. If you currently receive any vaccine from the Immunization Program, you will be receiving a site visit on an every other year basis. Here's what you can expect from a site visit.

| | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Program staff will call in advance to set up a time to meet at your convenience for approximately 1 hour. |
| 2 | On the day of the visit, staff will use a questionnaire to ask you questions regarding your vaccine ordering, storage and handling, accountability, documentation, and billing procedures. |
| 3 | You will receive a provider information folder containing all reference and working documents necessary for providing vaccines to your patients. |
| 4 | Staff will inspect your refrigerator and/or freezer units where you store vaccine. |
| 5 | A review of your vaccine administration records will be conducted for proper documentation. |
| 6 | Staff will provide you with a one-page feedback checklist of overall compliance with state and federal standards as well as an evaluation for you to complete and fax back to staff. |
| 7 | Within 2 weeks of your visit, you will receive a feedback letter outlining the details of the visit and any supplemental documents specific to your visit. |

Fighting Vaccine Wastage, Fraud and Abuse

As childhood vaccines become more expensive and immunization programs more complex, the VFC Program administered by CDC becomes more vulnerable to fraud and abuse. It is important to ensure your site is cognizant of appropriate use of state-provided vaccines. The following guidelines should help you be accountable for your vaccine supply.

Transfer forms, borrowing reports, and vaccine return forms should all be faxed to DPH by the practice. FAX: 860-509-8371

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Best Practices



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- 3) Use the Tally Sheet (available through our program) provided by CDC to document vaccines received with lot numbers, vaccines used (wasted or transferred). You can see at a glance how many vaccines you should have in inventory at the end of the month.
- 4) Post a simple inventory sheet on your refrigerator complete with expiration dates. You will know at a glance which vaccines to use first and how many vaccines you have close to expiring that you need to use or transfer (sample provided).

Thanks to all the providers who were willing to share their time-saving measures. Don't forget if your practice is doing something that makes administering the VFC Program easier, let us know. No one solution fits all, but starting with something is better than starting with nothing.



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To Ensure Accountability:

- **Report all doses of STATE vaccine administered each month when you submit your vaccine order. Do not report privately purchased vaccine.**
- **Report doses transferred in or out of your practice.** Check your expiration dates monthly and coordinate a transfer at least 2-3 months before expiration. Call the State Immunization Program if you have doses of vaccine that you think you will not use. Fill out a vaccine transfer form.
- **Report doses borrowed.** You may "borrow" state vaccine and replace it when your next order of private stock comes in. Be sure to fill out a borrowing form.
- **Report doses wasted due to spoilage or loss.** Review the office policy on the receipt and storage of vaccines so as to avoid vaccines being left out of proper storage. Make sure there is someone to receive a vaccine order even when the office may be unexpectedly closed such as in a snow storm.

Examples of Fraud and Abuse:

- Providing VFC vaccine to non-VFC-eligible children
- Selling or otherwise misdirecting VFC vaccine
- Billing a patient or third party for VFC-funded vaccine
- Charging more than the established maximum regional charge for administration of a VFC-funded vaccine to a federally vaccine-eligible child
- Denying VFC-eligible children VFC-funded vaccine because of parents' inability to pay the administration fee
- Failing to implement provider enrollment requirements of the VFC program
- Failing to screen patients for VFC eligibility at every visit
- Failing to maintain VFC records and comply with other requirements of the VFC program
- Failing to fully account for VFC-funded vaccine
- Failing to properly store and handle VFC vaccine
- Ordering VFC vaccine in quantities or patterns that do not match the provider's profile or otherwise over-ordering of VFC doses of vaccine
- Wasting VFC vaccine

Wasted or misused vaccine costs millions of dollars in taxpayer money. Let's all do our best to use our precious vaccines appropriately.