

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

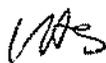
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Immunization Program

TO: Health Care Providers

FROM: Vincent Sacco, MS  Matthew Cartter, MD, MPH
Immunization Program Manager State Epidemiologist

DATE: October 5, 2012

SUBJECT: Guidance on the Use of State Supplied Vaccines Purchased with 317 Funds

The primary purpose of this communication is to provide guidance to health care providers on the use of state supplied vaccines (i.e., those that are obtained through the Connecticut Vaccine Program (CVP)), which the State has obtained using federal Section 317 funds.

As of October 1, 2012, in accordance with federal requirements, vaccines purchased with Section 317 federal funds cannot be used to immunize fully insured children. Fully insured is defined as anyone with insurance that covers the cost of vaccine, even if the insurance includes a high deductible or co-pay, or if a claim for the cost of the vaccine and its administration would be denied for payment by the insurance carrier because the plan's deductible has not been met. Underinsured individuals are patients who have health insurance that does not include vaccines or only covers selected vaccines.

Currently, the CVP provides all vaccines for underinsured children seen at a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) using funds obtained through the federal Vaccines For Children (VFC) program. CVP also provides all vaccines for underinsured children seen in private provider offices using federal Section 317 funding. In addition, CVP provides vaccines for fully insured children using State funds.

In Connecticut, to comply with the Section 317 requirements a provider need only accurately complete the Patient Eligibility Screening Record and use the Eligibility Criteria Form (available at <http://www.ct.gov/dph/cvp>) to determine which of the state supplied vaccines the patient is eligible to receive.

For example, if you are a private provider on the Patient Eligibility Screening Record you should check Box (E) under the section in form for "State Eligible." Then, consult the Eligibility Criteria Form (available at <http://www.ct.gov/dph/cvp>) to determine which of the state supplied vaccines the patient is eligible to receive (this is listed under the "Non-VFC Eligible Under-insured" column).

All CVP-supplied vaccines can be stored together; however, privately purchased vaccines should be stored so that they can be easily distinguished from CVP-supplied vaccines.

If you have any questions, please contact Mick Bolduc, the vaccine coordinator for the Connecticut Vaccine Program, at (860) 509-7929 or at michael.bolduc@ct.gov.