



# Colorado VFC Review

JUNE 2009

## In each Colorado VFC Review:

Tips to Stay Compliant ▪ Program Reminders ▪ Items to Keep Top of Mind

**Please read & post for others in your practice!**

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## NEW LOOK FOR THE COLORADO IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM WEBSITE

If you haven't had the chance, check out the new look of the Immunization Program web site at:

<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/immunization/index.html>

The program staff has been working very hard to make it a more user-friendly, up-to-date and useful site.

## NEW VFC VACCINE ORDER AND RETURN FORMS

There is a new VFC vaccine order form available for download at:

<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/immunization/FinalOrderFormJune2009.pdf>

Please make sure you are using the most current form when you place your VFC vaccine order or return product. You will notice the new order form has new questions you must answer in order to get your order processed.

The new VFC vaccine return form is available at:

<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/immunization/FinalReturnFormJune2009.pdf>

## FOR ALL YOU CIIS USERS

There is a **new** link to The Colorado Immunization Information System (CIIS). CIIS recently underwent an upgrade to a .Net server. The new version of the registry is available at <https://crisp.uchsc.edu/ciisv4net>. Please make sure to update your bookmark.

## VFC SITE VISIT INFORMATION AND VFC SELF-ASSESSMENT

Several months ago, all VFC providers were notified of the change in the site visit policy that was instituted for 2009. As the Colorado VFC Project strives to be more accountable for the vaccines we provide, we analyzed the data from the CDC and VFC provider vaccine ordering history. This analysis indicated that over half of all vaccines used by VFC providers in Colorado are supplied by one fourth of the nearly 540 enrolled Colorado VFC providers. To that end, the VFC project changed our site visit strategy to make sure that large volume users are visited yearly and our smaller volume users are either visited or receive a "relatively" short

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self-assessment to complete on a rotating basis. If your practice is on the site visit list, you most likely have had contact with your consultant. If not, you will be contacted soon. If you will be participating in the VFC Project Self-Assessment, you will be receiving notification within the next week. You may complete the assessment either online through Formsite (the preferred method) or hard copy, via fax. Please follow directions on the form, and answer the questions truthfully in order to receive the additional support services you need.

#### **PEDIATRIC HEPATITIS B VACCINE UPDATE**

In February, Merck and GSK both announced that they were having a difficult time filling orders for their monovalent pediatric Hepatitis B vaccines. At that time, the CDC released the national stockpile of these vaccines to the manufacturers for distribution to both public and private providers. While there is no shortage of pediatric RecombivaxHB® and Engerix-B® at this time, there has been increased demand for

the single antigen HepB products since the introduction of Pentacel® by Sanofi Pasteur to the vaccine market last year.

*The Colorado Vaccines for Children project is encouraging all providers to use their vaccines wisely to avoid any wastage/expiration of any pediatric hepatitis B vaccine.* For questions related to how best to use your Hepatitis B supplies, contact your regional nurse consultant. Don't know who that is? Find out at

<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/immunization/resources.html>

#### **NEW MCKESSON PHONE NUMBER**

As of June 1, 2009, there is new information in the vaccine shipments that arrive from McKesson. On the card that will be in each shipment are instructions on how to read the temperature indicator, and a toll-free number to call if the indicator is out of range. Please note that this is a NEW number.

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### **THE VACCINE TRACKING SYSTEM (VTRCKS)**

#### **What is the Vaccine Tracking System (VTrckS)?**

The Vaccine Tracking System (VTrckS) is a critical component of the CDC's Vaccine Management Business Improvement Project (VMBIP). VTrckS is an enterprise computer system that will replace several legacy systems used at the CDC, by state and local vaccine providers. VTrckS will serve three levels of the system users:

- CDC
- Immunization program grantees (State health departments, etc)
- Over 44,000 vaccine provider locations

As a single, integrated system, VTrckS will provide the CDC constant visibility to the vaccine inventories held at the distributor locations and at

provider locations. It will also allow CDC personnel to understand how dollars associated with the program are being spent nationally.

At the state level, VTrckS will provide capabilities for the Colorado VFC Project to manage the providers that participate in the program. Some of this support includes:

- Setting up and managing providers
- Performing a needs assessment for each provider
- Creating and monitoring spend plans
- Submitting orders on behalf of providers, and
- Facilitating receipt of data from providers (e.g., temperature monitoring reports or doses administered data)



One of the primary goals of VTrckS is to allow the states to independently and uniquely manage their providers.

At the local provider level, VTrckS provides vaccine ordering and order status capabilities.

Later this summer, a number of Colorado's VFC providers are going to be taking part in the **VTrckS Provider Order Pilot (VPOP)** in an effort to assist in the CDC's evaluation of the computer

system by actually using the online ordering system. CDPHE Immunization Program and the VFC Project would like to thank those providers for their willingness to participate in the VPOP project with us.

More information on VTrckS and VPOP will be coming in future editions of the Colorado VFC Review.

## **CDC's Immunization Update 2009**

*Hosted by the Colorado Immunization Program*

**July 30, 2009**

**10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

**The Children's Hospital  
Mt. Oxford Auditorium**

**FREE!**

The National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will present this live satellite broadcast and webcast will provide up-to-date information on the rapidly changing field of immunization. Anticipated topics include influenza (including H1N1 influenza), rotavirus, vaccine safety and vaccine supply, the "alternative" vaccine schedules and other emerging vaccine issues will also be discussed.

Questions? Contact  
Houston Hurlock at 303-692-2795  
or view the CDC website at  
<http://www2a.cdc.gov/phtn/immupdate2009/default.asp>

## **EPIDEMIOLOGY AND PREVENTION OF VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASES COURSE**

**November 16 and 17, 2009**

*Presented right here in Colorful Colorado!*

This two day course, **presented by CDC Immunization Educators live and in person**, provides a comprehensive review of immunization, vaccine-preventable diseases and their respective vaccines.

**Continuing Education (CE) credits  
will be provided.**

More info at  
[www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/immunization](http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/immunization)

**Want to get the Colorado VFC Update via email? Just email your name, title and practice name to...**  
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