



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health – Women’s & Children’s Health Section

1917 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1917

Tel 919-707-5550 • Fax 919-870-4824

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor

Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary

August 4, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local Health Departments

FROM: Beth Rowe-West, R.N., B.S.N., Head
Immunization Branch

SUBJECT: Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Ordering and Eligibility Criteria for 2009-2010

The purpose of this memo is to inform you of the Universal Childhood Vaccine Distribution Program (UCVDP) seasonal influenza vaccine ordering process and eligibility criteria for the 2009-2010 influenza season. **Please note this memo does not contain information about H1N1 vaccine availability or ordering.**

Submission of UCVDP Orders for Seasonal Influenza Vaccine

We anticipate that some seasonal influenza vaccine may be available to providers as early as August. Because the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends beginning vaccination as soon as flu vaccine is available, UCVDP will begin taking orders for seasonal flu vaccine products later this month. You may begin placing your order for **all seasonal influenza vaccine products after 8 AM on Monday, August 17, 2009. Orders placed before this date will not be honored.**

Before placing your order for state-supplied influenza vaccine, please review your agency’s anticipated influenza vaccine needs and policies. Select those product(s) and presentation(s) best suiting the needs of your agency. Because of the high volume of orders processed in a short period of time, providers are cautioned to carefully consider their orders, since modifying orders increases the likelihood of processing or shipping errors.

Because supplies of seasonal influenza vaccines, both Trivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (TIV) and Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV), are allocated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), **the Immunization Branch may need to adjust your order after it has been placed in order to accommodate supply limitations.** Although providers may prefer to carry only preservative-free vaccines, it is unlikely that UCVDP will be able to accommodate all orders for preservative-free flu vaccines because of supply. Therefore, providers should plan to have multiple formulations of flu vaccine, including those containing preservatives. You may wish to designate that preservative-free vaccines be used only for specific age groups of children, or only for those who request preservative-free vaccine.

When you place your order, our Customer Service staff will offer a calculated estimate of your anticipated state-supplied influenza vaccine needs. This calculation is based on your historic doses administered data and the number of children seen in your agency.

The distributor of state-supplied vaccines, McKesson Specialty, processes flu vaccine on a packing line separate from all other vaccines, so that flu vaccines will ship separately from other vaccines, even those ordered at the same time. We anticipate shipment of vaccine to go smoothly; however, as in previous seasons, the shipment of flu vaccine from the manufacturers is staggered and not available all at once. Early in the season, all providers, especially larger practices, should be prepared for flu vaccine (both TIV and LAIV) to be delivered in multiple shipments. Once manufacturers have delivered all flu products to McKesson Specialty, flu orders will be shipped in full as supplies allow until the end of the season.

All local health departments are permitted to use state-supplied, multi-dose vials of influenza in any off-site vaccination clinics. Those local health departments that are participating in school clinics funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) are approved for off-site use of FluMist® or Fluvirin® (multi-dose vials or pre-filled syringes) and may order those vaccines beginning August 17.

UCVDP Coverage Criteria for State Supplied Influenza Vaccine

At this time, we anticipate UCVDP supplies will be sufficient to cover **all children 6 months through 18 years of age**, regardless of insurance status.

Additionally, local health departments may administer state-supplied influenza vaccine to **any uninsured (and non-Medicaid) patient**, regardless of age, who will be pregnant during the flu season, and who is being served by the health department in any capacity. Medicaid-enrolled prenatal patients 19 years of age and older must receive privately purchased influenza vaccine if they wish to receive influenza vaccine.

If your agency has pre-booked or ordered private influenza vaccine, you may administer this privately-purchased vaccine to **non-VFC** eligible patients (in order to be able to bill the insurance plan) until your purchased supply is exhausted. At that time, please use state-supplied vaccine for all children 6 months through 18 years of age.

2009-2010 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Product Availability from UCVDP

During the 2009-2010 influenza season, UCVDP intends to offer several brands of influenza vaccine in various presentations. Specific quantities available will be determined by the CDC. Please note that all TIV expires on June 30, 2010, while LAIV expires at various times. **Please pay close attention to expiration dates on LAIV and spread your orders for this vaccine over the flu season.** The following is a description of what we expect to offer:

Product	Presentation	UCVDP Age Criteria
FluMist® (MedImmune) CPT®: 90660	Preservative-free 10 dose sprayers per box	Children aged 2 through 18 years
Fluvirin® (Novartis) CPT®: 90658	Preservative-containing 5mL vial 10 doses per vial	Children aged 4 through 18 years
Fluvirin® (Novartis) CPT®: 90656	Preservative-free .5mL prefilled syringes 10 doses per box	Children aged 4 through 18 years
Fluzone® (sanofi) CPT®: 90655	Preservative-free .25mL prefilled syringes 10 doses per box	Children aged 6 through 35 months
Fluzone® (sanofi) CPT®: 90656	Preservative-free .5mL prefilled syringes 10 doses per box	Children aged 36 months through 18 years or pregnant women of any age (<i>see above</i>)
Fluzone® (sanofi) CPT®: 90656	Preservative-free .5mL single dose vials 10 vials per box	Children aged 36 months through 18 years or pregnant women of any age (<i>see above</i>)
Fluzone® (sanofi) CPT® (.25mL): 90657 CPT® (.5mL): 90658	Preservative-containing 5mL vial .25mL dose for persons aged 6 through 35 mos. .5mL dose for persons aged 36 mos. through 18 yrs.	Children aged 6 months through 18 years

ACIP recommendations for 2009-2010 seasonal influenza may be found on the CDC web site at:

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5808a1.htm?s_cid=rr5808a1_e

As a reminder, effective July 1, 2005 influenza vaccine was added to the list of vaccines eligible for compensation under Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP). When administering any vaccine covered by the VICP program, a Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) must be provided to the parent/guardian/patient. The Vaccine Information Statements (VIS) for the 2009-2010 flu season have not yet been published. Once published, they may be viewed on the CDC web site at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/VIS>

If you have questions, please call the Immunization Branch Help Desk at 1-877-873-6247 or your Regional Immunization Nurse Consultant.

CC: SMT Regional Immunization Staff Central Office Staff Vaccine Manufacturers Zack Moore
Steve Shore Peter Graber Joy Reed Evelyn Foust
Terri Pennington Maclyn Powell Ann Nance Lou Turner

