



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
 Division of Public Health – Women’s & Children’s Health Section
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June 24, 2011

TO: North Carolina Immunization Program (NCIP) Participants
FROM: Beth Rowe-West, R.N., B.S.N., Head, Immunization Branch
SUBJECT: *Urgent:* Influenza Ordering for the 2011-2012 Season

The purpose of this memo is to inform providers of the process for ordering influenza vaccine for the 2011-2012 flu season. As was the case last season, in order to streamline ordering and eliminate backorders, there will be no pre-season ordering for influenza vaccine through the North Carolina Immunization Registry (NCIR). Instead, **providers will need to assess their influenza needs for the entire season, and pre-book their vaccine orders by 3 P.M. on July 29, 2011.** Once providers have **faxed** (to 1-800-544-3058) or **emailed** (to flu.2011-2012@dhhs.nc.gov) their orders for seasonal flu vaccine, the orders will be processed by the Help Desk staff. Providers will receive a confirmation e-mail within 48 hours. **Because of vaccine availability, most orders will be shipped in increments as vaccine becomes available at McKesson Specialty, rather than the entire order being shipped at once.**

Remember that influenza vaccine provided by the NCIP is available for children who are 6 months through 18 years of age who are eligible for the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. Additionally, regardless of insurance status, persons attending a North Carolina college or university, and health care workers, are eligible for NCIP influenza vaccine. For complete NCIP vaccine coverage criteria and VFC categories, go to: <http://www.immunizenc.com/coveragecriteria.htm>

New This Year!

This year for the first time, the NCIP will offer providers a free webinar on the topic of influenza vaccine ordering. Providers may choose between two 30-minute (approximately) webinars on **Thursday, July 7**. The first session will be held at **9:00 AM**, and the repeat session will be at **12:00 Noon**. No pre-registration is necessary to participate. The webinars will highlight strategies for accurately and effectively ordering influenza vaccine for the 2011-2012 flu season. Participating providers will simply need to type in the website address below (or follow the link under the announcements section in the NCIR), and call into the conference phone line in order to hear the presentation—**just remember to mute your phone!**

Date	Session Time	Website	Phone
July 7, 2011	9 AM	https://ncpublichealth.ncgovconnect.com/flu/	919-733-2490
July 7, 2011	12 Noon	https://ncpublichealth.ncgovconnect.com/flu2/	919-733-2429

Submission of NCIP Pre-Book Requests for Seasonal Influenza Vaccine

Before submitting your request for state-supplied influenza vaccine, please review your practice’s anticipated influenza vaccine needs and policies. Select those product(s) and presentation(s) best suiting the needs of your practice. Because of the high volume of pre-book forms processed in a short period of time, providers are cautioned to carefully consider their orders, since modifying the amount of pre-booked vaccine may not be possible.

Because the supplies of seasonal influenza vaccines are allocated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), **the Immunization Branch may need to adjust your request 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 NCIP 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 VFC children seen in your agency. If this information is incomplete we may be unable to provide an accurate estimate for your practice. The NCIP Pre-Book Request Form has been attached for your convenience and may be sent in at any time until 3 P.M. on July 29, 2011.

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. Providers should consider a vaccination plan that allows for the use of small amounts of vaccine available early in the season until more vaccine becomes available. **We suggest that you not schedule large mass vaccination flu clinics until you are certain that your supply will be sufficient to do so.** 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.

2011-2012 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Product Availability from NCIP

During the 2011-2012 influenza season, NCIP intends to offer several brands of influenza vaccine in various presentations. Specific quantities available will be determined by the CDC, therefore the Branch will be unable to accommodate brand choice for influenza vaccine. Providers may receive multiple brands for the same presentation of vaccine. Please note that all TIV will expire on June 30, 2012, while LAIV will expire at various times. **Please pay close attention to expiration dates on LAIV shipped to your practice.** MedImmune, the manufacturer of FluMist®, will offer a replacement program, allowing providers to return some expired FluMist® for longer-dated product.

Influenza products available through NCIP this influenza season:

Presentation	NCIP Age Criteria	Products
Preservative-free TIV .25mL prefilled syringes 10 doses per box	VFC children 6 through 35 months of age	Fluzone® (sanofi pasteur) CPT®: 90655
Preservative-free TIV .5mL single dose vials 10 vials per box	VFC children 36 months through 18 years of age Persons of any age attending an NC college or university, and health care workers of any age	Fluzone® (sanofi pasteur) CPT®: 90656
Preservative-free TIV .5mL prefilled syringes 10 doses per box	VFC children 36 months through 18 years of age Persons of any age attending an NC college or university, and health care workers of any age	Fluarix® (GlaxoSmithKline) Fluzone® (sanofi pasteur) CPT®: 90656
Preservative-containing TIV 5mL multi-dose vial .25mL dose for persons aged 6 through 35 mos. .5mL dose for persons aged 36 mos. through 18 yrs.	VFC children 6 months through 18 years of age Persons of any age attending an NC college or university and health care workers of any age	Fluzone® (sanofi pasteur) CPT® (.25mL): 90657 CPT® (.5mL): 90658
Preservative-free LAIV 10 dose sprayers per box	VFC children 2 through 18 years of age Persons of any age attending an NC college or university, and health care workers of any age	FluMist® (MedImmune) CPT®: 90660

Please note: As of June 30, 2011, all flu vaccine for prior seasons will have expired. NCIR users must transfer all expired inventory to Vaccine Distribution using the "Transfer All Expired" button and send all wasted vaccine to our Materials Area with a Wasted/Expired Form. Instructions for returning wasted vaccine are available at <http://bit.ly/ncirqr>. Details are on page 7, in the section, *How to Report Expired State-Supplied Vaccine*. Instructions for non-NCIR providers are available on the Wasted/Expired Vaccine Report, available at <http://bit.ly/WastedExpired>.

The CDC requires those administering vaccines to provide the patient/parent/guardian the most recent Vaccine Information Statement (VIS). This influenza season's VIS, and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations for the 2011-2012 flu season have not yet been published. Once published, the VIS may be viewed on the CDC web site at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/VIS>. The ACIP recommendations will be available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/ACIP-list.htm>

Thank you for your cooperation with these procedures. If you need additional information or assistance please contact your Regional Immunization Nurse Consultant or the Immunization Help Desk at 1-877-873-6247.

Cc: SMT NC Immunization Branch Steve Shore Greg Griggs Maclyn Powell Timika Poston
Joy Reed NCIB Field Services Jessica Gerdes Vaccine Manufacturers Taryn Edwards

**NORTH CAROLINA IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM (NCIP)
2011-2012 PRE-BOOK REQUEST FOR INFLUENZA VACCINE**

AVAILABLE FOR THE FOLLOWING: *VFC-ELIGIBLE CHILDREN THROUGH 18 YRS OF AGE
NC COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY STUDENTS OF ANY AGE
HEALTH CARE WORKERS OF ANY AGE*

THIS ORDER IS: (check one)

- First Order Addition to an Order
- Second Order Correction to an Order
- Third Order
- Fourth Order

**CANCELLATION OF FLU ORDER(S):	
(circle the orders to cancel)	
First Order	Third Order
Second Order	Fourth Order
Addition to an Order	Correction to an Order

Date: _____

Pin Number: _____

Provider or Facility Name: _____

Provider or Facility Address: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

E-mail for confirmation of receipt (please allow 48 hours): _____

Vaccine	Preparation	Age Group Covered	Requested Dose Amounts
Inactivated Injectable	0.25mL prefilled syringes	6 months – 35 months	DOSES
Inactivated Injectable	Single-dose vials	36 months – 18 years*	DOSES
Inactivated Injectable	Prefilled syringes	36 months – 18 years*	DOSES
Inactivated Injectable	Multi-dose vials	6 months – 18 years*	DOSES
Live-Attenuated Intranasal	Nasal sprayers	2 years – 18 years*	DOSES

***Persons of any age attending an NC college or university, and health care workers of any age**

Please complete this form with your requested influenza vaccine doses. **Please refer to the June 24th memo for the product presentation to figure # of doses needed.** NCIP will be taking orders to pre-book the influenza vaccine for the 2011-2012 flu season. **In order to receive influenza vaccine in a timely manner, pre-book requests must be submitted via fax (1-800-544-3058) or e-mail (flu.2011-2012@dhhs.nc.gov) BY 3PM ON JULY 29, 2011.** Pre-book requests received after this date will not be processed until after all other orders have been shipped in full. This is a very important process in trying to avoid wastage of vaccine while at the same time assuring that there is an adequate distribution of influenza vaccine.

Modifications/Cancellation:

Orders may be modified or cancelled by your facility until 3 PM on August 19, 2011. Please note that orders that are not cancelled on or before 3 PM on August 19, 2011 will be filled according to the original request.

You may call the Immunization Branch Customer Service line at 1-877-873-6247, with any questions you may have regarding this process.