



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health

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Division Director

November 5, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: North Carolina Immunization Program (NCIP) Participants
FROM: Wendy Holmes, RN, Head *WH*
Immunization Branch
SUBJECT: Important: 2014 Holiday Shipping Schedule

The purpose of this memo is to provide important details regarding the upcoming holiday vaccine shipping schedule. Adherence to this schedule will help avoid delayed shipments and the risk of damaged vaccine during the upcoming holiday season. Please carefully review the schedule below, and plan to order enough vaccine in November and/or December to vaccinate your patients at least through **January 2, 2015**.

November 2014 Ordering and Shipping

- With the exception of state government holidays (November 11, 27, and 28), NCIP will accept vaccine orders throughout the month of November.
- Providers will **not** receive vaccine shipments from McKesson Specialty or Merck from Friday, November 21 through Friday, November 28, 2014.

December 2014 Ordering and Shipping

- To accommodate McKesson Specialty and Merck holiday shipping schedules, Monday, December 1 through Friday, December 12, 2014 are the **ONLY** days that the North Carolina Immunization Branch will be accepting vaccine orders **for the entire month of December**. Unfortunately, orders received after 3pm on Friday, December 12 cannot be processed until Friday, January 2, 2015.
- Vaccine shipments *may* arrive at your office as late as Thursday, December 18, 2014. Providers will **not** receive vaccine from McKesson Specialty from Friday, December 19, 2014 through Thursday, January 1, 2015.

January 2015 Ordering and Shipping

- The North Carolina Immunization Branch will resume regular order processing on Friday, January 2, 2015.

Note: Between 3 pm, Friday, December 12, 2014 and Thursday, January 1, 2015, the ordering option will be unavailable in the North Carolina Immunization Registry. Any orders faxed during that time will result in the provider having to place another order.

With the exception of state government holidays (*November 11, 27, and 28, 2014; December 24, 25, and 26, 2014; and January 1, 2015*), the Immunization Help Desk will be available at **1-877-873-6247** throughout the months of November, December, and January to answer your questions and offer assistance.

CC: SMT	Regional Immunization Staff	Central Office Staff	Vaccine Manufacturers	Elizabeth Hudgins	Peter Graber
	Terri Pennington	Frank Skwara	Desiree Elekwa-Izuakor	Jason Swartz	Taryn Edwards
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