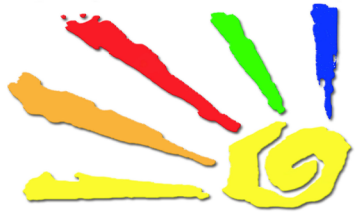


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New Mexico
IMMUNIZATION
COALITION

NM Immunization Coalition *News*

Fall 2007
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VMBIP: A new method for distributing vaccines

By Carly Christian

New Mexico Department of Health, VFC Manager

The Centers for Disease Control is undertaking a project to centralize vaccine inventory and distribution for the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program at the national level. CDC has contracted McKesson to ship vaccine directly to providers to consolidate inventories and reduce the number of times vaccine is handled during the delivery process.

In order to participate in the national VFC Program and continue the NM VFC program, adoption of direct vaccine distribution is required. Statewide direct vaccine distribution is expected to begin December 3, 2007.

Some things will change for providers:

- Providers will be assigned an "Ordering Month and Week" schedule based on the number of doses ordered in 2006 and refrigerator capacity. In 2006, providers ordering:
 - Less than 100 doses will order "as needed"
 - 100 – 499 doses will order quarterly (every 3 months)
 - 500 – 1,999 doses will order every other month
 - 2,000+ doses will order monthly
- The Vaccine Order Form will still be faxed to the NM VFC Program, but you will order vaccine according to your site's assigned ordering schedule.

- Once your order has been processed by the NM VFC Program, vaccines will be shipped directly to your office from McKesson.
- Providers will have to plan ahead with ordering, allowing time for delivery; vaccine orders may take up to three weeks to arrive at your office.
- Provider office staff will have to be fully trained in handling vaccines so vaccines are properly stored immediately upon arrival to avoid vaccine loss.

Some things won't change for providers. The NM VFC Program will still:

- Be the point of contact for providers to participate in the VFC Program and receive publicly purchased vaccine at no cost for all children 0-18 years of age.
- Receive vaccine orders from providers, and approve and submit them for processing.
- Provide technical assistance, training and education on best practices for immunization and vaccine management, and consultation and technical assistance for provider offices.
- Varicella and MMRV will continue to be shipped directly from Merck to you. Allow 4 weeks to receive these vaccines.
- Temperature logs must be faxed to your regional VFC contact person the first of each month. Temperature logs are legal documents and must be kept on site for at least 3 years. Correct temperatures must be recorded in Fahrenheit (F) only. If temperatures are out of range they must be reported to your regional VFC representative immediately.

VMBIP stands for Vaccine Management Business Improvement Process.

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Margy Wienbar

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Anna Pentler, MPH, MBA

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Greater Albuquerque Immunization Network (GAIN)
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Sanofi Pasteur
Santa Fe Immunization Coalition
Sierra County Immunization Coalition
University of New Mexico, Health Sciences Center
Villa Therese Catholic Clinic
Voices for Children
Wyeth Vaccines

Photo gallery

NMIC's meeting held on Friday, August 24 at the Albuquerque Marriott Pyramid

Clockwise L to R from top: Amy Groom with Dr. Andrew Kroger, keynote speaker from the CDC; Drs. Susan Kellie and Lance Chilton; Sidney Kistin, Dr. Kroger, Tina Cutler and Melissa Edel; Anna Pentler with Pat Montoya; Tina Cutler and Jacque Boothe; Dr. Maggi Gallaher with Gayle Kenny; Dr. Kroger with Nanci Baldwin; Gayle Kenny; Melissa Edel with Cindy Greenberg; Angela Heisel with Dennis Peña.



Welcome new Immunization Program staff

There are many new faces in the Immunization Program in the past few months, and we wanted to take a moment to introduce and welcome them:

Gayle Kenny is the new Program Manager. Gayle is a nurse and has been working in NM for over 5 years, mostly in Emergency Management education and training. She is quickly learning the immunization program with all its nuances.

Jane Cotner is the new Program Operations Manager. Jane comes from Chronic Disease Prevention and Control at DOH. She will manage the

internal program operations.

Beth Combs is the Immunization Education Specialist and is currently coordinating the CHILI training program and vaccine storage and handling procedures.

Elisabeth Williams is one of the NMSIIS Health Educators and Rhonda Sanchez is the Business Financial Manager, and is responsible for fiscal management, budgeting, tracking and forecasting. She also purchases all vaccine for the IZ program.

The Immunization Program is in the process of hiring a manager for the New Mexico Statewide Immunization Information System. We are very lucky to have such a talented group of people working on Immunizations and want them to know how much we appreciate their hard work and dedication.

Got Shots? Protect Tots!

focus on influenza

Please send in your registration form to participate in the first statewide quarterly event. All New Mexico providers are invited to participate.

This event will include influenza and all other childhood vaccinations. "Got Shots? Protect Tots!" will take place from November 12 through 17. Your clinic is encouraged to pick the dates and times you would like to participate.

Questions? Call Maggie June at 505-272-3032 or Eileen Goode at 505-855-6967.

SHOT BRIEFS

The CDC recommends the **influenza vaccine** for the following groups:

- Children 6 months to 5 years
- Adults 50 years and older
- People over 5 with chronic health problems
- Health care workers
- Household contacts of anyone in a high-risk group
- Anyone wishing to avoid getting influenza

Principal updates and changes in recommendations from last year include:

- 1) Reemphasizing the importance of administering **two doses of vaccine to all children aged 6 months-8 years if they have not been vaccinated previously** at any time with either live, attenuated influenza vaccine (doses separated by >6 weeks) or trivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (doses separated by >4 weeks), with single annual doses in subsequent years;
- 2) Recommending that **children aged 6 months-8 years who received only one dose in their first year of vaccination receive two doses the following year,**

with single annual doses in subsequent years;

- 3) Highlighting a previous recommendation that **all persons, including school-aged children, who want to reduce the risk of becoming ill with influenza or of transmitting influenza to others should be vaccinated;**
- 4) Emphasizing that immunization **providers should offer influenza vaccine and schedule immunization clinics throughout the influenza season;**
- 5) Recommending that health-care facilities consider the level of vaccination coverage among HCP to be one measure of a patient safety quality program and implement policies to encourage HCP vaccination (e.g., obtaining signed statements from HCP who decline influenza vaccination); and
- 6) Using the 2007--2008 trivalent vaccine virus strains A/Solomon Islands/3/2006 (H1N1)-like (new for this season), A/Wisconsin/67/2005 (H3N2)-like, and B/Malaysia/2506/2004-like antigens. This report and other information are available at CDC's influenza website (<http://www.cdc.gov/flu>).

(taken from MMWR Recommendations and Reports Volume 56, No. RR-5, July 13, 2007, emphasis added)

Calendar of upcoming events

October

- 10/9 "Got Shots? Protect Tots!" van tour: Arrey, NM.
- 10/10 "Got Shots? Protect Tots!" van tour: Sunland Park.
- 10/18 NMIC Steering Committee meeting, 2:30-4:30.
- 10/18 "Got Shots? Protect Tots!" van tour: Columbus.
- 10/19 "Got Shots? Protect Tots!" van tour: Deming.
- 10/22 "Got Shots? Protect Tots!" van tour: Artesia.
- 10/23 GAIN immunization meeting.

November

- 11/9 "Got Shots? Protect Tots!" van tour: Aztec.
- 11/12 thru 11/17: "Got Shots? Protect Tots!" statewide immunization event.
- 10/13 "Got Shots? Protect Tots!" van tour: Tucumcari and Logan.
- 11/15 NMIC Steering Committee meeting, 2:30-4:30.
- 11/17 "Got Shots? Protect Tots!" van tour: SE Heights.

December

- 12/7 NMIC full coalition meeting and fifth anniversary celebration.



Drs. Lance Chilton and Andrew Kroger with Anna Pentler. Dr. Kroger, a CDC expert on vaccine preventable diseases, presented at the Pediatric Grand Rounds on August 23 at the University of New Mexico Hospital, Bill and Barbara Richardson Pavilion.

NM Immunization Coalition News is

published quarterly. Please contact Maggie June at 505-272-3032 or via email at mjune@salud.unm.edu if you have any questions or have an item to submit for the newsletter.



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