



Division of Public Health Services

*Office of the Assistant Director
Public Health Preparedness Services*

150 N. 18th Avenue, Suite 120
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
(602) 364-3630
(602) 364-3285 FAX
Internet: www.azdhs.gov

JANICE K. BREWER, GOVERNOR
WILL HUMBLE, DIRECTOR

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Dear VFC Provider,

Here are some helpful reminders about the upcoming Arizona VFC Program vaccine policy changes:

Starting October 1, 2012, county health departments, ~~birthing hospitals~~ and other public providers will not be able to use public vaccine on privately insured children.

- Privately insured children should be vaccinated in their medical home because other resources may not be available after September 30, 2012.
- Some county health departments are trying to establish private stocks of vaccine and private insurance reimbursement systems in order to continue serving privately insured children. Check with your local health department to see if they can still serve as a resource for privately insured children.
- Other places where privately insured children may receive vaccine include:
 - **Community vaccinators** have main clinics and offsite clinics in some retail outlets. Some of these have contracts to bill insurance companies. Vaccines offered and ages served vary.
 - Some community vaccinators are East Valley Vaccination and Examination Center, Healthwaves, Maxim, and Passport Health
 - **Federally Qualified Health Centers or Rural Health Centers.** Some are able to take walk-in and non-established patients, but many will require the patients to enroll in the FQHC or RHC as their medical home.
 - **Pharmacies**, which do not serve children under 6 years of age (Walgreens, under 7 years of age).
 - **Another private provider** who carries needed vaccines.

UPDATE: EFFECTIVE JANUARY 30, 2013, HOSPITALS CAN USE VACCINE SUPPLIED BY THE ARIZONA VFC PROGRAM FOR THE HEPATITIS B BIRTH DOSE AND FOR HBIG FOR ALL INFANTS REGARDLESS OF INSURANCE STATUS.

Definition of Insured: Anyone with insurance that covers the cost of vaccine, even if the insurance includes a deductible or co-pay, or if a claim for the cost of the vaccine and its administration would be denied for payment by the insurance carrier because the plan's deductible had not been met.

There will always be sufficient vaccine for VFC-eligible children.

Always continue vaccinating VFC-eligible children. VFC-eligible children are:

- Uninsured
- AHCCCS
- Native American/Alaskan Native

There is sufficient vaccine for KidsCare children.

Please continue vaccinating KidsCare children.

Continue vaccinating UNDERinsured children with Arizona VFC Program vaccine until you are told to stop.

The Arizona VFC Program has a limited amount of vaccine available for the underinsured children. Please continue to vaccinate UNDERinsured children until the Arizona VFC Program tells you to stop. We expect this vaccine to last until Spring 2013. **UPDATE: THE FOLLOWING ENTITIES WILL NOT BE**

REQUIRED TO STOP IMMUNIZING UNDERINSURED CHILDREN:

- **VFC-ENROLLED HOSPITALS FOR THE HEPATITIS B BIRTH DOSE AND HBIG**
- **FQHCs AND RHCs**
- **DEPUTIZED COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENTS**
- **DEPUTIZED PROVIDERS WHO SIGNED A NEW DEPUTIZATION AGREEMENT IN 2013**

Definition of Underinsured: A person who has health insurance, but the coverage does not include vaccines or a person whose insurance covers only selected vaccines. Children with deductibles and co-pays are considered insured and NOT underinsured. Children who are underinsured for selected vaccines are VFC-eligible for non-covered vaccines only. Underinsured children are eligible to receive VFC vaccine only through a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), Rural Health Clinic (RHC), county health departments, or through a limited number of providers who have an approved deputization agreements effective in 2013 and beyond.

If you have any questions, please contact the Arizona VFC Program at 602-364-3642.

STARTING OCTOBER 2012, ~~HOSPITALS~~, COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER PUBLIC PROVIDERS WILL NO LONGER BE ABLE TO IMMUNIZE PRIVATELY INSURED CHILDREN WITH FEDERAL VACCINE.

BEGINNING SPRING 2013 (ANTICIPATED IN MARCH), VFC PROVIDERS MUST STOP USING FEDERAL VACCINE TO IMMUNIZE UNDERINSURED CHILDREN, UNLESS THEY HAVE A CURRENT (JANUARY 2013) DEPUTIZATION AGREEMENT