



Division of Public Health Services

*Immunization Program Office
Public Health Preparedness Services*

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October 23, 2015

Dear Arizona VFC Provider,

The Arizona Immunization Program Office (AIPO) appreciates your patience as we receive and allocate flu doses amongst 900 VFC providers across Arizona. As you know, a 30 day wait period between flu orders was in place to provide the opportunity for all Arizona VFC providers to submit their initial flu order. **The 30 day wait period between flu orders has now been removed and you may now order additional flu vaccine.**

AIPO continues to wait for delivery of our full allocation of flu doses. Orders will continue to be reduced based on the doses available at the time of order submission. **If your order cannot be processed in its entirety, the balance will be placed on backorder and will be filled when available.**

This flu season has had delays in shipments and includes production delays of influenza vaccine from Sanofi Pasteur (Fluzone®) and MedImmune (FluMist®), these are anticipated to continue. Additionally, there were two unexpected extended periods of downtime in the CDC's vaccine ordering system. Orders could not be placed during those downtimes.

***Note: AIPO has received less than 50% of infant flu presentations at this time. As an alternative, utilizing a multidose vial for giving infants a dose of 0.25 mg influenza vaccine is an acceptable option to the single dose 0.25 mg influenza vaccine. According to the CDC, children can safely receive flu vaccine that contains thimerosal. For more information please visit: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/patient-ed/conversations/downloads/vacsafe-thimerosal-color-office.pdf>.

As always, please remember:

- All current VFC vaccine inventory must be reconciled in ASIIS before you will see your order screen and before you will be able to place your order for VFC vaccine.
- Temperature logs must be submitted to the Arizona Vaccine Center up to the day before the order is placed. For example, if you place your order on November 4th temperature logs should be completed and submitted up to November 3rd.

NOTE: The Arizona Vaccine Center will be unable to process your vaccine orders if your temperatures and vaccine reconciliation are not up-to-date.

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- The Arizona Vaccine Center communicates with providers about their orders in the comments section in ASIIS. **Until your order is received please check the comments section daily for possible communications about your pending order.**

While VFC flu vaccine distribution has many variables outside of AIPO's control, program staff continue to look at ways to improve our internal processes and deliver flu doses as quickly as is possible. Again we appreciate your patience

Please contact the Arizona Vaccine Center at 602-364-3642 if you have any questions.