



Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

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Margaret T. Donnelly
Director



Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon
Governor

July 31, 2012

Dear Vaccines for Children Provider:

The Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program is changing the way vaccines will need to be ordered to provide our VFC providers with the best customer service possible. Effective September 1, 2012, Missouri's VFC program is implementing Economic Order Quantity (EOQ). EOQ is a new initiative set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to more effectively manage the nation's VFC programs by improving the efficiency of ordering and monitoring vaccines.

Providers will now need to order and account for VFC vaccine on a set order frequency cycle. The set order frequency cycle means providers will order and account for VFC vaccines either the first or second half of each month, depending on location. If a provider wishes to order at a different time other than their set order frequency cycle, (off schedule ordering), there must be a compelling reason and each "off schedule" order will be reviewed for urgency. When ordering vaccines according to your clinic's assigned schedule, remember to review all vaccine in stock and check for short-dated vaccine (expiring within the next 90 days). Providers are expected to administer short-dated vaccine or transfer it to another VFC provider to minimize wastage. Your VFC liaison can help you locate nearby VFC providers that can use the vaccine. The enclosed map indicates the VFC liaison assignments and provider ordering patterns.

Even though the VFC program will now be utilizing the set order frequency cycle, all temperature logs still need to be submitted to the VFC program on the first business day of each month regardless of the ordering pattern. Notify your VFC liaison or the VFC program immediately if refrigerator or freezer temperatures are out-of-range. Please ensure your VFC pin number is included on each document sent to the VFC program.

The VFC program appreciates every VFC providers' work and corporation with this new set order frequency cycle. This new cycle will allow McKesson, our vaccine distributor, to more efficiently process and ship VFC vaccine orders in a shorter amount of time.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact your VFC liaison at 800.219.3224.

Sincerely,

Julie Boeckman
VFC/AFIX Coordinator
Bureau of Immunization Assessment and Assurance
Section for Healthy Families and Youth
Department of Health and Senior Services
State of Missouri

Please visit our web sites at:

<http://www.health.mo.gov/>

<http://health.mo.gov/immunizations>

www.health.mo.gov

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