

Hawaii VFC News

A PUBLICATION OF THE HAWAII IMMUNIZATION BRANCH

"Hawaii VFC News" is a quarterly publication distributed to all participating Vaccines for Children (VFC) providers. Its purpose is to address VFC-related issues, provide general immunization information, and keep you up-to-date with the latest program changes. If you have any suggestions for future newsletter topics, or if you would like to share relevant immunization information with other VFC providers through our newsletter, please contact Kit Uyeda at (808) 586-8349 or via e-mail at kit.uyeda@doh.hawaii.gov. Neighbor Islands, call toll-free 1-800-933-4832.

Temperature Logs Help Keep Vaccines Viable

Maintaining complete and accurate temperature logs is an important safeguard to maintain your vaccines' efficacy and viability. Temperature log information frequently overlooked are the "exact time" and "staff initials" for every temperature reading recorded. Please review the temperature log below. The rows to record "exact time" and "staff initials" are indicated by the big arrows. This information is important in the event of a temperature excursion; the appropriate staff, indicated by "staff initials", can give an account of what led up to the temperature excursion and the detailed time frame, indicated by "exact time", can be relayed to the vaccine manufacturer. Based on the exact time of the temperature excursion, and the previous time when the temperature was within normal limits, the vaccine manufacturer will then be able to determine the vaccine's viability.

In addition, sending complete temperature logs once a month is a Hawaii State VFC Program requirement. When faxing the logs, please stamp each log using your VFC stamp to indicate the provider submitting the logs. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Noel, by phone (808-586-8318) or by e-mail (noel.jose@doh.hawaii.gov).

Temperature Log for Vaccines (Celsius) Month/Year: _____ Days 1-15

* **Instructions:** Place an "X" in the box that corresponds with the temperature. The shaded zones represent unacceptable temperature ranges. If the temperature recorded is in the shaded zone: 1. **Store the vaccine(s)** under proper conditions as quickly as possible, 2. **Call the vaccine manufacturer(s)** to determine whether the potency of the vaccine(s) has been affected, 3. **Call the Hawaii VFC Program** for further assistance: (808) 586-8300 or 1-800-933-4832 (toll-free), and 4. **Document the action taken** on the reverse side of this log.

Day of Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
Exact Time																
°C Temp	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm
≥11°	Take immediate action if temperature is in shaded section!															
10°																
9°																
8°																
7°																
6°																
5°																
4°																
3°																
2°																
1°																
0°	Take immediate action if temperature is in shaded section!															
≤-1°																
≥-12°																
-13°																
-14°																
-15°																
-16°																
-17°																
-18°																
-19°																
≤-20°																
Staff Initials																



VFC Program Staffing Changes

Two field reviewers, Joyce Li, RN and Stephanie Martin, RN, and Mardelle Gustilo, Epidemiological Specialist have left the Hawaii Vaccine for Children (VFC) Program. Please be assured that vaccine ordering and shipment will not be affected. Changes to streamline the Program and its processes will be implemented internally. Until new staff are hired, please call the Immunization Branch main line at (808) 586-8300 regarding questions or concerns. Noel Jose, RN will continue to provide technical support and will start provider site visits at the end of February 2013.

Varicella Vaccine Shipped Separately from Other Vaccines

Most of the vaccines you order are shipped from the McKesson Depot. However, since the varicella vaccine must be frozen, it is shipped directly from Merck, the manufacturer. Therefore, the varicella vaccine will arrive in a separate shipment from your other vaccines.

Have You HIR'd?

Beginning in 2013, the Hawaii VFC Program will transition all providers to submitting vaccine orders electronically using the Hawaii Immunization Registry (HIR).

Hawaii VFC providers will enter their vaccine requests (orders) directly into HIR. Vaccine orders received through HIR will be processed by Hawaii VFC Program staff and submitted electronically to CDC. Once the vaccine is shipped from the distributor, information including NDCs, lot numbers, and expiration dates will be electronically uploaded to HIR to be used for vaccine tracking and accountability.

Information regarding HIR vaccine ordering training sessions will be sent to you in the coming months. At least one staff person from each provider office will be required to participate in training.

For more information, please contact the Hawaii Immunization Registry Help Desk at (808) 586-4665, 1-888-447-1023 (toll-free) or registryhelp@doh.hawaii.gov.

Talk to the Doc



Has the ACIP updated the recommendations on the use of Tdap (tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid and acellular pertussis) vaccine for pregnant women?

Yes. The ACIP posted provisional Tdap recommendations on December 6, 2012. The updated recommendations are as follows:

- Health-care personnel should administer a dose of Tdap during **each** pregnancy, irrespective of the patient’s prior history of receiving Tdap.
- Optimal timing for Tdap administration is between 27 and 36 weeks gestation, to maximize the maternal antibody response and passive antibody transfer to the infant.
- For women not previously vaccinated with Tdap, and if Tdap is not administered during pregnancy, the vaccine should be administered immediately postpartum.

In this regard, VFC providers may wish to utilize the prenatal interview as an opportunity to encourage expectant mothers to receive Tdap during their current pregnancy, if they have not already done so. The interview is also a chance to remind parents or parents-to-be that all persons who anticipate having close contact with their infant should be immunized against pertussis, including siblings, grandparents, and childcare providers.

Pertussis Prevention Campaign

In the coming months, the Department of Health Immunization Branch will be promoting vaccination of family members, caregivers, and visitors of newborns and infants in an effort to protect them against pertussis. An educational campaign utilizing print materials and Internet marketing will target parents and caregivers, informing them about the dangers of pertussis and encouraging vaccination of those who will have close contact with infants.

Please continue to vaccinate siblings of infants and encourage parents and caregivers to get vaccinated. For a list of locations providing pertussis vaccinations to adults, call 2-1-1 or visit <http://hawaii.gov/health/Immunization/Documents/AdultVaxResourceList.pdf>.



- Pertussis (whooping cough) is a deadly disease that threatens your infant.
- Family and friends may spread the disease to your baby and not know it.
- Your infant needs protection but is too young to be vaccinated
- Make sure everyone who visits your baby has had their pertussis shot.

For more information, talk to your doctor, visit <http://hawaii.gov/health/immunization/index.html>, or call 2-1-1.



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