



Hawaii VFC News

A PUBLICATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S 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.

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The Importance of Vaccine Accountability

Accounting for vaccine, be it of private or public stock, is a necessary action that should be properly performed in every provider's office. Not only is it a fiscally-sound practice, it also benefits patients' health and protects the professional reputation of the office and its staff.

When vaccine and diluents are properly stored and well organized, administration errors are less likely to occur, preventing wasted doses and patient recalls. In addition, reviewing patient histories carefully prevents the administration of vaccine doses before the recommended ages or short of recommended intervals which also could result in patient recalls and "extra" doses.

It is important to document vaccination immediately after it occurs in an effort to ensure the patient's medical record includes an accurate and complete immunization history. Inputting this information into the Hawaii Immunization Registry (HIR) safeguards it in the event that the patient moves or changes providers, which goes a step further in preventing patients from receiving "extra" doses unnecessarily.



Vaccine Inventory Reporting

Hawaii VFC providers are required to submit inventories of VFC doses administered and VFC doses on-hand **monthly** via the Hawaii Immunization Registry (HIR) "Record Inventory" menu option.

Monthly inventories are an important component of VFC vaccine accountability as they provide Hawaii VFC staff with the ability to monitor vaccine usage and determine if the number of doses requested by providers are appropriate based on their past usage and current inventory on hand.

Because vaccine order approvals rely heavily on inventory data submitted, providers are asked to:

- ♦ **Complete the "Doses Given Since Last Inventory" and "Physical Inventory on Hand" columns** for vaccine lots that have been administered within the last month and/or are currently on-hand.
- ♦ **Order, at maximum, a two-month's supply of vaccine.** Hawaii VFC staff estimate a provider's two month vaccine supply need based on monthly inventory reporting prior to approving orders.

To avoid any delays in vaccine order processing, please ensure that monthly vaccine administration and current inventory on-hand information is reported accurately in HIR.

If you have any questions about vaccine inventory reporting, please call 586-8300 or 1-800-933-4832.

TALK TO THE DOC



What are the maximum ages for administration of the first and last doses of rotavirus vaccine?

The maximum age for the **last dose** of rotavirus vaccine is **8 months 0 days**. Rotavirus vaccine should not be given after age 8 months 0 days, even if the series is incomplete.

The maximum age for **dose 1** of rotavirus vaccine is **14 weeks and 6 days**. Vaccination should not be initiated for infants aged 15 weeks 0 days and older because of insufficient data on the safety of dose 1 of rotavirus vaccine in older infants. For infants who inadvertently receive dose 1 at age 15 weeks 0 days or older, the rest of the rotavirus vaccination series should be completed according to the schedule, with all doses completed by age 8 months 0 days, because timing of dose 1 should not affect the safety and efficacy of any subsequent doses.

Education and Training

Have questions about inventory reporting and ordering via the Hawaii Immunization Registry (HIR)? If so, join us for "**Ask the Local Expert: VFC Vaccine Orders and Inventory in HIR**" on **Tuesday, May 17 at noon**.

To register for this webinar, visit

<http://askthelocalexpert.eventbrite.com>



Have you HIR'd ?

History		Add Immunization	Edit Patient	Reports	Print	Print Confidential		
Vaccine Group	Date Administered	Series	Trade Name	Dose	Owned?	Reaction	Hist?	Edit
Influenza	11/15/2015	1 of 2	Fluzone IIV4 ®	Full	No			
	11/20/2015	NOT VALID	Fluzone IIV4 ®	Full				

Healthcare providers may often see patients who do not have records of past vaccination or who may receive immunizations from multiple clinical care sites. An attempt to locate written, dated records should be made by contacting previous clinicians; however, contacting the previous clinician may be difficult or the provider might not realize that the child has been vaccinated elsewhere (e.g., birth dose of hepatitis B vaccine, influenza vaccine through the Stop Flu at School program, etc.). This may result in the **administration of unnecessary duplicate doses of vaccines**.

For example, many children ages 5 to 13 years receive influenza vaccine through the Stop Flu at School program. By searching for the record in HIR, clinicians may avoid administering flu vaccine to a child who has already been vaccinated. Such doses are reflected in HIR as “not valid” (see graphic above).

While HIR contains immunizations from multiple sources, it is possible that the immunization record found in HIR may not be complete. Nevertheless, even incomplete HIR records may help prevent duplicate vaccinations, reducing costs to the patient (e.g. money, time, and pain of vaccination) and provider (e.g. staff time and vaccination costs).

Have you HIR'd that **HIR can provide a consolidated immunization history** to assist providers in determining appropriate client vaccinations at the point of clinical care?

Vaccine Loss and Vaccine Transfer Reporting

Reporting expired, spoiled, wasted, and transferred vaccine doses to the Hawaii VFC program is important to ensuring accurate recordkeeping and tracking of VFC vaccine doses for accountability purposes. Use the table below to determine what and how to report.

Vaccine Type	Definition/Examples	Documentation and Reporting	Return to CDC Vaccine Distributor
Expired	Unused vaccine with expiration date prior to today's date	Vaccine Loss Reporting Form	Yes, except opened multi-dose vials
Spoiled	Unusable vaccine due to improper storage, refrigerator/freezer temperature excursion, vaccine recall	Vaccine Loss Reporting Form	Yes, except opened multi-dose vials
Wasted	Unused/unusable vaccine due to broken vial/syringe, drawn but not administered, lost or unaccounted for, expired/spoiled vaccine in <u>opened multi-dose vials</u>	Vaccine Loss Reporting Form	No, discard appropriately
Transferred	Viable vaccine sent to or received from another VFC provider office or returned to the Hawaii VFC program	Vaccine Transfer Form	Not applicable

Vaccine Loss Reporting Form – Hawaii VFC staff enter information from this form into CDC's vaccine tracking system. A pre-paid UPS label is sent to the email address indicated on the form. Providers should enclose a copy of the completed Vaccine Loss Reporting Form when returning vaccines to the CDC vaccine distributor.

Vaccine Transfer Form – Hawaii VFC staff use this information to update the provider's inventory in the Hawaii Immunization Registry (HIR).



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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
IMMUNIZATION BRANCH
VFC PROGRAM**

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