



# 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.

## VFC Update: Vaccine Wastage

The Hawaii VFC Program recently performed an analysis of VFC vaccine wastage for the period April 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018. Can you believe that over 10,000 doses of VFC vaccine totaling over \$600,000 were recorded as expired or wasted? We surely can do better than that! Please be judicious when placing vaccine orders and request a 2-month supply of vaccines at the most.

### COMMON MISPERCEPTIONS

#### Should opened multi-dose vials of vaccine be discarded 30 days after opening?

No, not necessarily. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit](#), multi-dose vials of vaccine can be used until the expiration date printed on the vial unless the vaccine is contaminated or compromised in some way or there is a "Beyond Use Date" noted in the package insert. For the two VFC vaccines supplied in multi-dose vials ([IPV](#) and [influenza](#)) no requirement for a "Beyond Use Date" is noted on the package inserts. Unless contaminated or compromised in some way, VFC providers should use opened multi-dose vials until the vaccine expires.

#### Shouldn't I routinely stock all VFC vaccines, including those that are only administered to high-risk individuals?

The Hawaii VFC Program considers non-routine vaccines (Pneumococcal Polysaccharide 23-valent [PPSV23], Diphtheria-Tetanus [DT] and Tetanus-diphtheria [Td]) to be "special order" vaccines that should only be requested if you have a specific patient that requires these vaccinations. Most children are not routinely recommended to receive PPSV23, DT or Td. To avoid expiration and wastage, do not order these vaccines until you see patients that are indicated to receive them. Note that PPSV23 and Td can be ordered in single dose quantities rather than entire boxes so please limit requests to the number of doses needed for your specific patient.

#### I have too much vaccine and/or ordered the wrong vaccine. Should I just hold on to it until it expires and then return it?

No! If you know that you will not be able to use vaccines prior to the expiration date, please contact VFC providers in your area and ask if they would be willing to receive your overstock or incorrectly ordered vaccine as a transfer. Notify the Hawaii VFC program of the transfer by completing the "Hawaii Department of Health Immunization Branch Vaccine Transfer Form" (found in your VFC Provider Toolkit) and submitting to us via fax (808-586-8302) or email ([hawaii.vfc@doh.hawaii.gov](mailto:hawaii.vfc@doh.hawaii.gov)).



VFC vaccines are very expensive and are purchased with your tax-payer dollars. Please help to ensure that VFC vaccines do not go to waste and are used responsibly. If you have any questions, please contact the Hawaii VFC Program at (808) 586-8300, toll-free at 1-800-933-4832, or email us at [hawaii.vfc@doh.hawaii.gov](mailto:hawaii.vfc@doh.hawaii.gov).

## Talk to the Doc

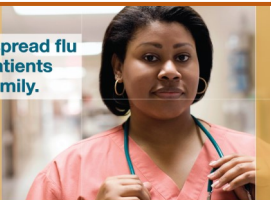
**Question:**  
If I draw 0.25 mL and 0.5 mL doses of influenza vaccine from a multi-dose vial of Fluzone® Quadrivalent, is it acceptable to withdraw more than 10 doses from the same 5 mL vial?

**Answer:**  
No. Only the number of doses indicated in the manufacturer's package insert should be withdrawn from the vial. After the maximum number of doses has been withdrawn, the vial should be discarded, even if there is residual or the expiration date has not been reached. The manufacturer's package insert for Fluzone® Quadrivalent indicates that "a maximum of ten doses can be withdrawn from the multi-dose vial."



I won't spread flu to my patients or my family.

Even healthy people can get the flu, and it can be serious. Everyone 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine. This means you. This season, protect yourself—and those around you—by getting a flu vaccine.



## HAVE YOU HIR'D?

### Go with the Current

This message is for all users who annually complete HIR enrollment forms or update clients' participation status in HIR. While processing forms, we often notice that there are HIR users who submit old versions of the forms. It is important to use the current forms because at times legislation and/or HIR programmatic procedures may change. Forms are updated to comply with the changes. So, we ask you to stay current with the changes, too.



The following is a list of HIR forms and their current publication dates. Current forms are available on the HIR log in screen under 'Forms.'

HIR Form	Date
Confidentiality and Security Statement	12/08/17
Facility Enrollment Application	12/08/17
Opt-Out Form	07/06/12
Reauthorization Form	07/06/12

For more information, call the HIR Helpdesk at 586-4665 or 1-888-447-1023 (toll-free), or e-mail [registryhelp@doh.hawaii.gov](mailto:registryhelp@doh.hawaii.gov).

## PERTUSSIS TESTING AND REPORTING

Pertussis can cause serious and potentially life-threatening complications in infants and young children, especially those who are not fully vaccinated. Complications include pneumonia, seizures, apnea, encephalopathy, and death. In 2017, the Hawaii Department of Health (HDOH) received 39 reports of pertussis. The number of reported pertussis cases in 2018 to date is 29. Each year in Hawaii, about a third of the cases occur in infants younger than 1 year of age and approximately 10% of cases require hospitalization.

Symptoms of pertussis usually develop within 5 to 10 days after being exposed, but sometimes as long as 3 weeks later. In the youngest infants, atypical presentation is common. The cough may be minimal or absent and the primary symptom can be apnea. The clinical course of pertussis is divided into three stages: catarrhal, paroxysmal, and convalescent. See image A.

### Diagnosis and Laboratory Testing:

Several types of laboratory tests are commonly used for the diagnosis of pertussis. Culture is considered the “gold standard” because it is the only 100% specific method for identification. Other tests that can be performed include polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and serology.

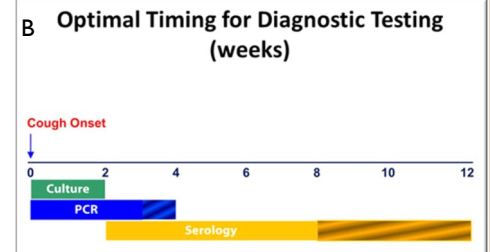
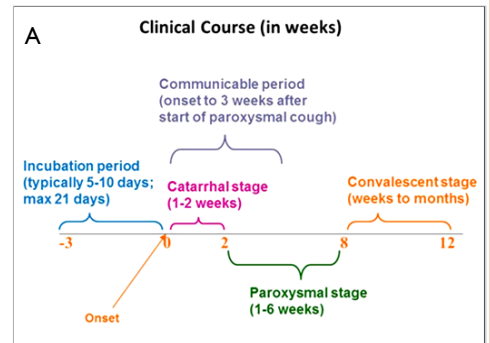
Optimal timing for diagnostic testing of pertussis is indicated in image B.

### Reporting to HDOH:

Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 11, Chapter 156 require:

- **Urgent** reporting by telephone as soon as a provisional diagnosis is established; and
- **Immediate** reporting by telephone within 24 hours of positive test results for *Bordetella pertussis*

Telephone reports shall be followed by a written report submitted by mail or fax within 3 days to HDOH.



For more information on diagnostic testing of pertussis, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/pertussis/clinical/diagnostic-testing/index.html>.

### Immunization Education

The Hawaii Immunization Coalition (HIC) will be sponsoring two educational opportunities for healthcare providers. Mark your calendars and be on the lookout for more information.

#### Immunization Update Webinar

Tuesday, March 12, 2019  
12:30—2:00 p.m.

#### Featured speakers:

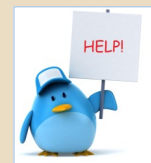
CDC: Raymond Strikas, MD, MPH, FACP  
HDOH: Ronald Balajadia, MS

Continuing education credit will be provided.

#### Navigating from Local to Global

November 13—15, 2019  
Ala Moana Hotel, Honolulu

HIC and the Hawaii Public Health Institute (HIPHI) will host this National Conference for Immunization Coalitions and Partnerships. Plenary and breakout sessions appropriate for healthcare providers will be included.



### The Help Box

#### Reminder:

Please note your VFC PIN on all correspondence (fax and email). When faxing, the VFC PIN should be noted on all pages in the event that pages become separated. Thank you!

## How to Improve HPV Vaccination Rates

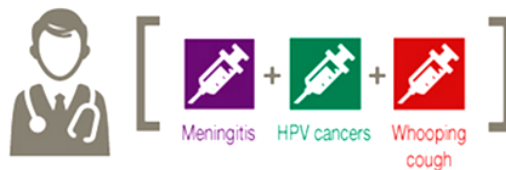
### Tip #1: Make a clear recommendation

A clear, brief and confident recommendation from you can instantly change how parents think about HPV vaccine.

**Research shows:** simply **changing the order** of the vaccines (i.e., meningitis, **HPV**, pertussis) and recommending the HPV vaccine the same day and the same way you recommend all other vaccines helps parents perceive HPV vaccine as routine rather than optional.

**Try saying:** *Your preteen needs three vaccines today to protect against meningitis, HPV cancers and pertussis.*

*We'll give those shots during today's visit.*



If vaccination is refused, tell them you will discuss it again at the next visit.

## HPV RESOURCES

Watch videos on how to answer parent questions:

#HowIRecommend Videos

<https://www.cdc.gov/hpv/hcp/how-i-recommend.html>

Practice answering parent questions through role play:

HPV Interactive Training App

Android: [https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.kognito.hpv\\_immunization](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.kognito.hpv_immunization)

iOS: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/hpv-vaccine-same-way-same-day/id1356847181?mt=8>

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
IMMUNIZATION BRANCH**

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