



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health – Women’s & Children’s Health Section**

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January 11, 2010

TO: North Carolina Immunization Program (NCIP) Participants

FROM: Brandon C. L. Rector, MSW, Vaccine Distribution Manager
Immunization Branch

SUBJECT: Update on the Availability of Hiberix® (Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (Hib) Vaccine) and Kinrix® (DTaP and IPV Combination Vaccine)

The purpose of this memo is to inform NCIP providers that we are now making Hiberix® available for providers to order via the North Carolina Immunization Registry (NCIR), by fax, and by phone. Please remember that Hiberix® is approved for use in children 15 months through 4 years of age, and may be used for a booster dose regardless of whether the primary series was completed with ActHIB® or PedvaxHIB®.

Allocations of ActHIB® and PedvaxHIB® vaccine from the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continue to be insufficient to meet provider demand for that product. As more providers choose to use Hiberix® for booster doses, this may make more ActHIB® or PedvaxHIB® available for providers who choose to use that product. However, all Hib products continue to be allocated nationally by the CDC, and should North Carolina be unable to fill ActHIB® or PedvaxHIB® orders in full, we will continue to reduce those orders as necessary and supplement them with Hiberix®. When an order for ActHIB®/PedvaxHIB® is reduced, the unshipped portion of the order is cancelled and must be reordered at a later date.

In addition, after a lengthy period of supply shortages, Kinrix®, the combination vaccine for the fifth dose of DTaP and fourth dose of polio vaccine, is now available for order. Kinrix® is available only for VFC-eligible patients. Since orders placed prior to January 1, 2010 most likely do not reflect changes to the NCIP Coverage Criteria, all orders placed prior to that date will be cancelled and providers will have to reorder Kinrix® with their next regular vaccine order.

An updated Vaccine Requisition Form is attached for providers who submit orders via fax. If you need additional information or assistance please review the following support documents:

- **CDC’s Vaccine Shortages and Delays Information and Recommendations:** <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vac-gen/shortages/default.htm>
- **NCIP Coverage Criteria:** <http://www.immunizenc.com/coveragecriteria.htm>

Please contact your Regional Immunization Nurse Consultant or the Immunization Help Desk at 1-877-873-6247 if you have further questions.

Attachment

<p>CC:: SMT Maclyn Powell Joy Reed</p>	<p>NC Immunization Branch Vaccine Manufacturers Ann Nance</p>	<p>Steve Shore Jessica Gerdes</p>	<p>Greg Griggs</p>
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