

Subject: Recording Immunizations Received Outside the United States in NCIR

Effective: January 1, 2008

Revised: June 3, 2009; November 15, 2011

Policy:

Immunizations given outside the United States (U.S.) should be documented in the NCIR as historical doses. Providers should be advised to perform the following steps when entering immunizations given outside the U.S. in the registry:

1. Look up the vaccine trade name in the Pink Book* to determine the specific antigens included in the vaccine.
2. Enter the vaccine historically under the specific antigen(s) covered.
3. In the "Administered by" field, enter [vaccine trade name] given in [country].

Example:


If 'Triple' (a DTP combination used in Cuba and Mexico) was given, it should be recorded historically as a DTP with an unspecified trade name, with "Triple given in Cuba" in the "Administered by" field.

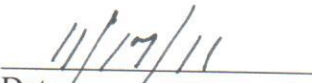
4. If provider is unable to determine the antigen content of the foreign vaccine, they should contact the on-call nurse at the Immunization Branch for assistance. If the antigen content of the foreign vaccine cannot be determined, it cannot be entered into NCIR.

Providers should be made aware that doses entered in this manner may be declared invalid by the NCIR. This is because NCIR compares doses to the standard ACIP schedule, and the schedules that are followed in other countries may differ. The provider should follow ACIP guidelines to determine whether doses need to be repeated to ensure that the client is adequately immunized and has fulfilled the requirements of North Carolina Immunization law.

References:

- Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases, National Immunization Program, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (also known as the "Pink Book"). The current version may be found on-line at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/index.html>
- MMWR, General Recommendations of the Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices, Persons Vaccinated Outside the US, Including Internationally Adopted Children. The current version may be found on-line at: http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwr_rr/rr_cvol.html


Approved by


Date