



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Public Health – Women’s & Children’s Health Section  
1917 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1917  
Tel 919-707-5550 • Fax 919-870-4824

Michael F. Easley, Governor

Camren Hooker Odom, Secretary

October 26, 2005

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Local Health Departments  
Private Providers

**FROM:** Beth Rowe-West, BSN, RN  
Head, Immunization Branch

**SUBJECT:** Changes Affecting Polio Vaccine Required Schedule

The purpose of this memo is to announce a change in the administrative rules relating to the requirements for polio vaccination. Effective October 1, 2005, the administrative rule, 10A NCAC 41A.0401, has been changed, eliminating the requirement for the fourth dose of polio vaccine to be given on or after the fourth birthday. In addition, if the third dose of polio vaccine is given on or after the fourth birthday, a fourth dose is not required. The current (new) requirement reads:

*Poliomyelitis vaccine--four doses: two doses of trivalent type by age five months; a third dose trivalent type before age 19 months, and a booster dose of trivalent type before enrolling in school (K-1) for the first time.*

*Individuals that receive the third dose of poliomyelitis vaccine on or after the fourth birthday shall not be required to receive a fourth dose.*

Please note that the requirement for the booster dose of DTaP vaccine to be given on or after the fourth birthday has not changed.

Questions regarding the change in the polio requirement should be addressed to your Regional Immunization Consultant, or by calling the Immunization Branch Central Office, at 919-707-5550.

CC: SMT  
Regional Immunization Staff  
WCH Nursing Consultants

CO Staff  
Local Health Directors  
Joy Reed

Ron Helder  
Steve Shore  
Peter Graber

