



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health – Women’s & Children’s Health Section
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Michael F. Easley, Governor

Dempsey Benton, Secretary

January 11, 2008

TO: Universal Childhood Vaccine Distribution Program Participants

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

RE: **IMPORTANT POLICY CHANGE: Providers may administer all state-supplied vaccine to underinsured children**

The purpose of this memorandum is to notify all participants in the Universal Childhood Vaccine Distribution Program (UCVDP) that effective immediately you may administer **all state-supplied vaccines to underinsured children.**

The practical impact of this expansion in North Carolina is that state-supplied HPV, rotavirus and meningococcal vaccine may now be provided by all UCVDP participants to **underinsured children.** Previously, only federally qualified health centers and rural health centers could use state-supplied HPV, rotavirus and meningococcal vaccines for underinsured children.

Underinsured children are defined as children, ages birth through 18 years, whose insurance plans do not fully cover the cost of vaccines (independent of co-pays, deductibles and administration fees). Identification of underinsured children may be determined by a previous history of the child’s plan denying to cover the cost of vaccines. If you do not have this information for an insured child, you should administer privately purchased vaccine and submit a claim for the cost of the vaccine administered. If you receive a denial for full coverage for the cost of the vaccine, you may adjust your privately purchased vaccine inventory by placing one dose of state-supplied vaccine in your private inventory for every dose administered to an underinsured child.

You should estimate the number of underinsured children seen in your agency or practice prior to placing your next vaccine order and adjust future orders accordingly.

If you have questions or need assistance assessing the supply needs of your practice, the Immunization Branch Help Desk can assist you at 1-877-873-6247 (Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm ET) or you may contact the regional immunization nurse consultant serving your region.

CC: SMT Regional Immunization Staff Central Office Staff
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Filename: deputizing providers

