



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health

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Michael F. Easley, Governor
Dempsey Benton, Secretary

Leah Devlin, DDS, MPH
State Health Director

July 1, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: UCVDP Providers

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

SUBJECT: Reminder- New Immunization Requirements for the 2008-2009 School Year

The purpose of this memo is to remind UCVDP providers to educate parents, students, and staff about the new school entry requirements for tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis (Tdap) and mumps vaccinations. Over the summer months, please remember to immunize the children, adolescents, and adults in your practice who will be affected by the new immunization requirements for school and college entry. Children who will be entering kindergarten, adolescents who will be entering 6th grade (or turning 12), or adults who will be entering college for the first time this fall need to be in compliance with the new requirements. If you see any of these individuals in your practice, please make sure they have received the vaccines required for school entry this fall.

On January 1, 2008, the administrative rule, **10A NCAC 41A.0401**, was changed, adding requirements for one booster dose of Tdap (tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis) vaccine to be given to the following age groups:

- **All individuals attending public school** who are entering the 6th grade on or after August 1, 2008, if five years or more have passed since the last dose of tetanus/diphtheria toxoid
- **All individuals not attending public schools** (i.e., private, home-school, non-traditional schools) who are 12 years of age on or after August 1, 2008, if five years or more have passed since the last dose of tetanus/diphtheria toxoid.
- **Individuals enrolling in college or university** for the first time on or after July 1, 2008, if a tetanus/diphtheria toxoid or tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis vaccine has not been administered within the past 10 years.

This rule change also impacts mumps vaccination. Individuals will now be required to receive a second dose of mumps vaccine before enrolling in school, college or university for the first time on or after July 1, 2008.



North Carolina Public Health
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Please remember that the two Tdap products available are approved for different age groups. Adacel (sanofi Pasteur) is approved for persons 11-64 years of age, and Boostrix (GlaxoSmithKline) is approved for persons 10-18 years of age. We recommend having both Tdap products available in your clinic, so that no child is turned away due to the age limits of the products.

Don't miss this opportunity to vaccinate the adolescents and college-bound students with the additional vaccines recommended for their age group. When patients come in your office to receive the Tdap or mumps vaccine, it's also a good time to speak with them about the additional vaccines recommended for adolescents, such as meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4) and human papillomavirus vaccine (HPV). Remember, these vaccines are supplied by the Immunization Branch only for children under the age of 18 who also qualify to be in one of the VFC eligibility groups below:

- **Medicaid enrolled** – a child who is eligible or enrolled in the Medicaid program
- **Uninsured** – a child who has no medical insurance coverage
- **American Indian or Alaskan Native** – as defined by the Indian Health Service Act
- **Underinsured** – a child whose health insurance benefit plan does not fully cover the cost of vaccines (independent of co-pays, deductibles, and administration fees).

The Immunization Branch has developed materials that UCVPD providers can use to educate parents and providers about these important rule changes. These items include: reminder/recall postcards for rising sixth grade students; reminder/recall postcards for students about to enter college; a fact sheet for parents of rising sixth grade students; a "Pocket Guide" for providers that lists all of the required vaccines by point of school entry; and a rule change flyer that contains details about the rule change and is available to providers as an educational resource. Attached you will find an order form that lists the materials available for providers to order, free of charge, from the Immunization Branch. These materials can also be found on our website at <http://www.immunizenc.com/Rule%20Change.htm> and are available to be downloaded and printed.

Questions regarding the changes in the tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis (Tdap) and mumps vaccination requirements should be addressed to your Regional Immunization Nurse, or please call 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

Rebecca Reeve
Gerri Mattson

Immunization Rule Change - Resources for Providers Order Form

Materials are FREE to order!
Please FAX your order to 1-800-544-3058

Provider Education Materials

- _____
(Quantity)
- Rule Change
Flyer (8.5x11)** –
Contains details
about the rule change
as an educational resource for providers
- 


- _____
(Quantity)
- Pocket Guide (3.5x9)** –
Quick reference guide
for providers re: school
immunization requirements
at kindergarten, sixth grade
and college entry.



Patient Education Materials – for 6th Grade Requirement

- _____
(Quantity)
- 

**Is Your Child Ready Postcard –
for 6th Grade Entry (8.5x5.5)** –
Reminder/Recall postcard for parents of
rising 6th grade students with information
about the new immunization rule.

- _____
(Quantity)
- 
- Parent Education Flyer (8.5x11)** –
FAQs for parents of rising 6th grade
students, contains information about the rule
change, vaccine and disease.

Patient Education Materials – for College Requirement

- _____
(Quantity)
- 

**Is Your Teenager Ready Postcard – for
College Entry (8.5x5.5)** –
Reminder/Recall postcard for parents of
students about to enter college
with information about the new
immunization rule.

Please complete the contact information below. Send your request to the N.C. Immunization Branch by fax to 1-800-544-3058. Please allow at least two weeks for delivery. All of the materials are also available on the Internet, and can be downloaded at no cost at www.immunizenc.com.

Contact Name:	
Organization:	
Address:	
City/State:	
Zip:	
Telephone:	