



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Public Health – Women’s & Children’s Health Section  
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Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor

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February 4, 2010

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** North Carolina Immunization Program (NCIP) Providers

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

**SUBJECT:** Ordering Change for Seven Valent Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV7)

The purpose of this communication is to inform you of changes in ordering PCV7 (trade name Prevnar®) that are necessary to prepare for the pending approval and licensure of the new 13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV13), which is expected to replace the current 7-valent product. Licensure of PCV13 is anticipated in the near future.

In order to reduce inventory loss of PCV7 during this transition, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has requested that orders of PCV7 be reduced. Effective immediately, providers’ orders for PCV7 should not exceed a two-month supply (rather than the standard three-month supply.)

Once PCV13 has been licensed, and CDC approvals are in place, providers will be notified when PCV13 is available for ordering. As is the case with PCV7, we anticipate that PCV13 will be available from the NCIP only for children meeting the Vaccines for Children (VFC) eligibility categories. For the complete coverage criteria document, go to: <http://www.immunizenc.com/coveragecriteria.htm>  
Unexpired PCV7 should not be destroyed or returned, either before or after receipt of PCV13, until providers receive specific instructions from the NCIP to do so.

Questions should be addressed to the Immunization Help Desk, 1-877-873-6247.

Cc: SMT Regional Immunization Staff Central Office Staff Steve Shore Gregg Griggs  
Joy Reed Vaccine Manufacturers Terri Pennington Maclyn Powell Ann Nance

Filename: ordering change for PCV7 final