



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health – Women’s & Children’s Health Section
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December 2, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: North Carolina Immunization Program (NCIP) Participants

FROM: Beth Rowe-West, R.N., B.S.N., Head
Immunization Branch

SUBJECT: Expansion in Availability and Coverage Criteria for State-Supplied Influenza Vaccine

The purpose of this memo is to announce a change in the availability of state-supplied influenza vaccine for the current influenza season only. Because all pre-booked influenza vaccine has been shipped at this point, providers may order additional influenza vaccine. Also, effective **immediately**, influenza vaccine provided through the NCIP may be administered to **anyone over 6 months of age, regardless of insurance status**. Influenza vaccine should be administered according to the seasonal recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). The ACIP recommendations for the 2010-2011 influenza season may be found at:

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5908a1.htm?s_cid=rr5908a1_e

Please note that, because of holiday shipping restrictions, providers who wish to receive influenza vaccine prior to January 12, 2011, may order vaccine from the Immunization Branch any time before 3:00 P.M., Friday, December 10, 2010.

As is the case with all state-supplied vaccines, providers must be accountable for all influenza vaccine doses shipped to them. Providers using the North Carolina Immunization Registry (NCIR) should enter all doses into the registry. Providers not yet using the NCIR must report doses administered on a Vaccines Administered Log (VAL).

Please note that short-dated, state-supplied FluMist® is eligible for MedImmune’s FluMist® Replacement Program. The replacement program allows for the replacement of unused, expiring FluMist® doses, at no cost, to help you maximize product usage opportunities. Information about this program is available on our website at

<http://www.immunizenc.com/flu vaccine providers.htm>.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the regional immunization nurse serving your region, or contact the Immunization Branch at 919-707-5550.

CC: SMT Terri Pennington Regional Immunization Staff Maclyn Powell Central Office Staff Timika Poston Vaccine Manufacturers Taryn Edwards Steve Shore Peter Graber Joy Reed