



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

Pat McCrory
Governor

Aldona Z. Wos, M.D.
Ambassador (Ret.)
Secretary DHHS

Laura Gerald, M.D., M.P.H.
State Health Director

May 15, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: North Carolina Immunization Program (NCIP) Providers
FROM: Beth Rowe-West, RN, BSN, Head *BRW*
Immunization Branch
SUBJECT: Pediarix Allocation

The purpose of this memo is to alert providers of a recent notification from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding the reduction in availability of the combination vaccine Pediarix[®], which contains DTaP, hepatitis B, and IPV (polio) antigens. The current monthly Pediarix[®] allocation is approximately one half of the amount previously allocated to the NCIP; therefore, NCIP participants will receive approximately half of their usual order. According to CDC, this reduced allocation situation is anticipated to last until September 2013.

Effective immediately, the NCIP is asking providers to follow the guidance below when ordering Pediarix[®]:

1. Reduce your Pediarix[®] order by one half of the amount previously ordered and order the appropriate amount of DTaP, hepatitis B, and IPV vaccines for your practice’s population.
2. Providers who have not historically ordered Pediarix[®] will not be allowed to begin ordering Pediarix[®] vaccine during this shortage.
3. Providers should continue to follow the recommended immunization schedule and ensure patients receive all recommended doses of DTaP, hepatitis B, and IPV vaccines.

CDC reports that the various vaccine companies have sufficient supplies of component vaccines to meet the increased demand for the component products that will result from the decreased availability of Pediarix[®]. Attached please find a chart indicating how these vaccines may be used.

Remember, the CDC states: “Only combination vaccines licensed by FDA should be used. Vaccination providers should not combine separate vaccines in the same syringe to administer together unless mixing is indicated for the patient’s age and is explicitly specified on the FDA-approved product label inserts.” For more details, go to:

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr6002.pdf>.

NCIP understands the challenges that health care providers, patients, and parents face when there are limited supplies of vaccine, and apologizes for any inconvenience caused by these ordering restrictions. Please contact the NCIP Help Desk, 1-877-873-6247, for guidance on ordering vaccines.

Attachment

Cc: SMT Field Staff Central Office Staff Vaccine Manufacturers Steve Shore Maclyn Powell
Gregg Griggs Taryn Edwards Terri Pennington Joy Reed Peter Graber Ann Nichols

www.ncdhhs.gov • www.publichealth.nc.gov • www.immunize.nc.gov

Tel 919-707-5550 • Fax 919-870-4824

Location: 5601 Six Forks Road • Raleigh, NC 27609

Mailing Address: 1917 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-1917

An Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer



If an infant has received **one** dose of Pediarix

Birth	2 months	4 months	6 months
Hep B	Pediarix		Hep B
	DTaP-IPV-HepB	DTaP	DTaP
		IPV	
	Hib	Hib	(Hib)*
	PCV13	PCV13	PCV13
	Rota	Rota	(Rota)*

If an infant has received **two** doses of Pediarix

Birth	2 months	4 months	6 months
Hep B	Pediarix	Pediarix	Hep B
			DTaP
	Hib	Hib	(Hib)*
	PCV13	PCV13	PCV13
	Rota	Rota	(Rota)*

Possible schedule using Comvax (combination of hepatitis B and PedvaxHib)

Birth	2 months	4 months	6 months
Hep B	Comvax	Comvax	
	Hib-HepB		
	DTaP	DTaP	DTaP
	IPV	IPV	
	PCV13	PCV13	PCV13
	Rota	Rota	(Rota)*

Possible schedule without any combination vaccines

Birth	2 months	4 months	6 months
Hep B	Hep B		Hep B
	DTaP	DTaP	DTaP
	Hib	Hib	(Hib)*
	IPV	IPV	
	PCV13	PCV13	PCV13
	Rota	Rota	(Rota)*

* Depending on brand choice