



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

Pat McCrory
Governor

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

Danny Staley
Acting Division Director

June 29, 2015

TO: Child Care Facilities in North Carolina

FROM: Wendy Holmes, RN, Head ^{WH}
Immunization Branch

SUBJECT: New and Revised Immunization Rules and Requirements Effective July 1, 2015

The purpose of this memo is to inform you of new vaccine requirements and changes to existing requirements as documented in North Carolina Administrative Code 10A NCAC 41A .0401 *Dosage and Age Requirements for Immunization*. The changes were made to more closely align NC requirements with the current Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations. The new vaccine requirements and changes to previous vaccine requirements will become effective **July 1, 2015**.

Highlights of the new vaccine requirements and the revised requirements are listed below. Details of the rule changes may be found in the updated NCAC 10A available on the North Carolina Immunization Program website at: www.immunize.nc.gov. Additional information may be found in the attached flier, *Children in Child Care – What Shots Do They Need*.

New Vaccine Requirements

- **Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV)** – 4 doses by 15 months of age
 - The number of vaccine doses required depends on the age of the child when the vaccine series began.
 - Infants born on or after July 1 will be required to have PCV as early as September upon turning 2 months of age.
 - No individual 5 years of age or older is required to receive PCV.
- **Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV)** – 2 doses
 - One dose is required for individuals entering the 7th grade or by 12 years of age whichever comes first.
 - Booster dose is required for individuals entering the 12th grade or 17 years of age beginning August 1, 2020.
 - If the first dose is administered on or after the 16th birthday, the booster dose is not required.

Changes to Previous Vaccine Requirements

- **Polio vaccine** – the booster (4th) dose is required on or after the 4th birthday and before entering school for the first time.
- **Varicella vaccine** – 2 doses administered at least 28 days apart
 - One dose is required on or after 12 months of age and before 19 months.
 - A second dose is required before entering school for the first time.

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

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- Documentation of disease must be from a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant verifying history of varicella disease. Documentation must include the name of the individual with history of disease, approximate date or age of infection and a healthcare provider signature.
- **Tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (whooping cough) – Tdap**
 - A booster dose of Tdap is required for individuals who have not previously received Tdap and who are entering 7th grade or by 12 years of age, whichever comes first.
- **School Entry from 6th to 7th Grade**
 - Simultaneous administration of Tdap and MCV vaccines is allowed at the 11-12 year old recommendation.

Please note: No child shall attend a child care facility as defined in G.S. 110-86(3), unless a certificate of immunization indicating that the child has received the immunizations required by G.S. 130A-152 is presented to the school or facility. Anyone who is not age-appropriately vaccinated on the first day of attendance shall have 30 calendar days to obtain the required immunizations. Upon termination of 30 calendar days or the extended period, the operator shall not permit the child to attend the facility unless the required immunizations have been obtained.

For additional information regarding the new vaccine requirements please contact the on-call immunization nurse at the Immunization Branch, 919-707-5550.

Attachment

cc: SMT	CO Staff	Elizabeth Hudgins	RINs	RICs	Greg Griggs
	Ann Nichols	Desiree Elekwa-Izuakor	Terri Pennington	Jason Swartz	Frank Skwara

Children in Child Care!



Children attending child care centers or homes must receive shots – or immunizations.

You must collect shot records from parents and update your records until all required shots have been given.

IMPORTANT!

Parents or guardians must provide a child's certificate of immunization within 30 days of attendance. Children who are behind in their shots may be enrolled, but must also prove they are trying to get the needed vaccines and are meeting scheduled appointments.

What Shots Do They Need?

By This Age....

Children Need These Shots

3 months	1 DTaP	1 Polio	1 Hib	1 PCV	1 Hep B			
5 months	2 DTaP	2 Polio	2 Hib	2 PCV	2 Hep B			
7 months	3 DTaP	2 Polio	2-3 Hib	3 PCV	2 Hep B			
12-16 months	3 DTaP	2 Polio	3-4 Hib	4 PCV	1 MMR	2 Hep B	1 Var⁺	
19 months	4 DTaP	3 Polio	3-4 Hib	4 PCV	1 MMR	3 Hep B	1 Var⁺	
4 years or older (in daycare only)	4 DTaP	3 Polio	3-4 Hib^{**}	4 PCV^{**}	1 MMR	3 Hep B	1 Var⁺	
4 years or older (and in kindergarten)	5 DTaP[*]	4 Polio[*]	3-4 Hib^{**}	4 PCV^{**}	2 MMR[*]	3 Hep B	2 Var^{**}	

* The 5th DTaP; 4th Polio; 2nd MMR; and 2nd Varicella are not required until children enter kindergarten. The last DTaP and Polio must be after age 4.

** Children beyond their 5th birthday are not required to receive Hib or PCV vaccines

+ Vaccination is required unless signed documentation of disease history is provided by a health care worker stating the date or age of child's infection.

Note: Hepatitis A, Rotavirus and Flu vaccines are not required or reportable but are recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

If you have questions about immunizations, call your local health department or contact the NC Immunization Branch at 919-707-5550 or visit www.immunize.nc.gov.

Vaccine Tips

DTaP **Diphtheria, Tetanus and acellular Pertussis** is sometimes combined with other vaccines and is written as DTaP-HepB-IPV, DTaP-IPV/Hib or DTaP-IPV. If it is written as DT, ask the parent for a doctor's note stating why DT was used instead of DTaP. Children who receive the fourth DTaP after age 4 do not need a fifth dose.

Polio **Polio** may be written as either OPV, IPV, Sabin Polio or EIPV. Polio may also be written as DTaP-HepB-IPV, DTaP-IPV/Hib or DTaP-IPV as a part of a combination vaccine. The fourth dose of polio must be received after the 4th birthday and before entering kindergarten. Children who receive the third dose of polio after age 4 do not need a fourth dose.

Hib **Haemophilus influenzae type B** may be written by itself or as DTaP-IPV/Hib, or Hib-MenCY. Children receive either 3 or 4 doses of Hib, depending on the type of Hib given.

Hep B **Hepatitis B** is required for all children born after July 1, 1994.

PCV **Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine** is required for all children born on or after July 1, 2015. The number of doses required varies based on the age of the child's first vaccine.

MMR **Measles, Mumps and Rubella** is a 3-in-one shot. The first dose can be given no earlier than the 1st birthday. The 2nd dose must be given before the child enters kindergarten.

Var **Varicella (Chickenpox)** – The first dose can be given no earlier than the 1st birthday and beginning July 1, 2015, the second dose is required before entering kindergarten.

N.C. Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health
Women's & Children's Health Section
Immunization Branch

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