



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

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July 1, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local Health Departments, Federally Qualified Health Centers, Rural Health Centers

FROM: Wendy Holmes, R.N., Head *WH*
Immunization Branch

SUBJECT: Influenza Vaccine Ordering for the 2015-2016 Season

The purpose of this memo is to inform providers of the process for ordering influenza vaccine for the 2015-2016 season. As was the case in past flu seasons, in an effort to streamline ordering and eliminate backorders, there will be no pre-season ordering for influenza vaccine through the North Carolina Immunization Registry (NCIR). Instead, **providers will need to assess their influenza needs for the entire season, and pre-book their vaccine orders using the form provided by 3 P.M. on Thursday, July 23, 2015.**

Once providers have **faxed** (to 1-800-544-3058) or **emailed** (to flu.2015-2016@dhhs.nc.gov) their orders for seasonal influenza vaccine, the orders will be processed and confirmed by Immunization Branch staff. Providers will receive a confirmation e-mail within 48 hours. Please be sure a valid email address is provided. If you have not received your confirmation within 48 hours, please call 1-877-873-6247, and press option 6.

Because of vaccine availability, most orders will be shipped in increments as vaccine becomes available at McKesson Specialty, rather than the entire order being shipped at once.

As was the case last season, this season all influenza products provided by the NCIP will be **quadrivalent**.

Eligibility for NCIP influenza vaccines

Remember that influenza vaccine provided by the NCIP is only available for:

- **Children, 6 months through 18 years of age, who are eligible for the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program.**
- Any non-Medicaid, uninsured patient, 19 years and older, who is pregnant during the influenza season, and who is being served by a local health department (LHD), Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), or Rural Health Center (RHC) in any capacity, can receive state supplied influenza vaccine at this location. Adult women with Medicaid are considered insured for this purpose, and therefore are **not** eligible for NCIP vaccine.

Please note:

- **State supplied live attenuated vaccine (LAIV4) may not be administered to any adults.**
- State supplied influenza vaccine will **not** be expanded universally due to federal restrictions on all state supplied vaccines for insured individuals. Therefore, you must order influenza vaccine privately if you wish to vaccinate insured individuals. For complete NCIP vaccine coverage criteria and VFC categories, go to:
<http://www.immunize.nc.gov/providers/coveragecriteria.htm>.

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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Submission of NCIP Pre-Book Requests for Seasonal Influenza Vaccine

Before submitting your request for state-supplied influenza vaccine, please review your practice's anticipated influenza vaccine needs and policies. Select the product(s) and presentation(s) which best suit the needs of your practice. Because of the high volume of pre-book forms processed in a short period of time, providers are cautioned to carefully consider their orders, since modifying the amount of pre-booked vaccine may not be possible. Demand, federal vaccine allocations, and manufacturer availability impact the ability to modify influenza vaccine orders.

In order to assist with determining the quantity of this year's order, you may use last season's state-supplied vaccination usage entered in the NCIR. NCIR administrators may run a Vaccine Usage report (under "Inventory" in the blue menu to the left of the screen) for the time period between June 1, 2014 and May 31, 2015. The NCIP Pre-Book Request Form has been attached for your convenience and may be sent in at any time until 3 P.M. on Thursday, July 23, 2015. When pre-booking your flu vaccine, please keep in mind how much available refrigerated storage space you will have for properly storing the vaccines.

Once you have received your entire pre-booked order, should you require more vaccine, additional supplies may be available. Please check the NCIP web site, www.immunize.nc.gov, or the NCIR home page for information on additional vaccine availability.

We anticipate shipment of vaccine to go smoothly; however, as in previous seasons, the shipment of influenza vaccine from the manufacturers is staggered and is not available all at once. Early in the season, all providers, especially larger practices, should be prepared for influenza vaccine (regardless of type) to be delivered in multiple shipments. For this reason, it's important to diversify your order with various presentations of vaccine.

Providers should consider a vaccination plan that allows for the use of small amounts of vaccine early in the season, until more vaccine becomes available. **We suggest that you not schedule large mass vaccination influenza clinics until you have a sufficient supply on hand to do so.** Once manufacturers have delivered all influenza products to McKesson Specialty, influenza orders will be shipped in full as supplies allow until the end of the season.

2015-2016 Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Product Availability from NCIP

During the 2015-2016 influenza season, NCIP intends to offer several brands of influenza vaccine in various presentations. Specific quantities available will be determined by the CDC; therefore, the Immunization Branch will be unable to accommodate brand choice for influenza vaccine. Providers may receive multiple brands for the same presentation of vaccine. The quadrivalent vaccine is offered in both injectable (IIV4) and live attenuated intranasal (LAIV4) presentations. Please note that all injectable vaccine will expire on June 30, 2016, while **intranasal vaccines will expire at various times.** **Please pay close attention to expiration dates on intranasal vaccines shipped to your practice.** MedImmune, the manufacturer of FluMist[®], will offer a replacement program, allowing providers to exchange expired FluMist[®] for longer-dated product, during a restricted period. Information regarding this program will come directly from MedImmune.

Influenza products available through NCIP in the 2015-2016 influenza season:

Presentation	NCIP Age Criteria	Products
Quadrivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV4), Preservative-containing 5 mL multi-dose vial 0.25 mL dose for persons aged 6 through 35 mos. 0.5 mL dose for persons aged 36 mos. through 18 yrs.	VFC children 6 months through 18 years of age	* Fluzone [®] (sanofi Pasteur) CPT [®] (0.25 mL): 90687 CPT [®] (0.5 mL): 90688
Quadrivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV4), Preservative -free 0.5mL single dose vial - 10 doses per pack	VFC children 36 months through 18 years of age	Fluzone [®] (sanofi pasteur) CPT [®] : 90686
Quadrivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV4), Preservative-free 0.5mL prefilled syringes - 10 doses per pack	VFC children 36 months through 18 years of age	* Fluzone [®] (sanofi pasteur) Fluarix [®] (GlaxoSmithKline) CPT [®] : 90686
Quadrivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV4), Preservative-free 0.25mL prefilled syringes - 10 doses per pack	VFC children 6 months through 35 months of age	Fluzone [®] (sanofi pasteur) CPT [®] : 90685
Quadrivalent live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV4), Preservative-free 0.2 mL prefilled sprayers - 10 sprayers per box (intranasal)	VFC children 2 through 18 years of age	FluMist [®] (MedImmune) CPT [®] : 90672

* LHDs/FQHCs/RHCs may administer this vaccine to uninsured pregnant women of any age. See coverage details above.

Remember: As of June 30, 2015, all influenza vaccines for prior seasons will have expired. If your NCIR inventory indicates that you have influenza vaccine on hand, but you do not physically have the vaccine, please contact the NCIP Help Desk (1-877-873-6247) to have the vaccine removed from your inventory beginning July 1, 2015. Providers who do have expired influenza vaccine on hand must transfer all expired inventory to Vaccine Distribution on or after July 1, 2015 using the guidelines set up in the 2015 Vaccine Return Policy. A cheat sheet is available on our website at: <http://bit.ly/returningexpired>. For all non-NCIR providers please fax a completed copy of a Wasted/Expired Vaccine Report for your site, available at <http://bit.ly/NCIPWastedExpired>. Please include your complete site name, six digit pin, and phone number. Please make sure everything is legible and valid or this will delay the return process for your office.

According to CDC, every time an influenza vaccination (Inactivated or Live, Intranasal vaccine) is given — regardless of whether it is given by a public health clinic or private provider — regardless of how the vaccine was purchased — and regardless of the age of the recipient — the appropriate Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) must be given out prior to the vaccination. This influenza season’s VISs, and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) final recommendations for the 2015-2016 influenza season have not yet been published. Once published, the VISs for each influenza vaccine may be viewed on the CDC web site at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/index.html>. The ACIP recommendations will be available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/index.html>.

Thank you for your cooperation with these procedures. If you need additional influenza vaccine information or assistance please contact the Immunization Help Desk at 1-877-873-6247, and press option 6, or contact your Regional Immunization Nurse Consultant.

Attachments

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

2015 – 2016 North Carolina Immunization Program (NCIP) Pre-book Request for Influenza Vaccine

Complete and submit this form by **3 p.m. on July 23, 2015**. Pre-book requests received after this date will not be processed until after all other orders have been shipped in full. This process is vital to minimize wastage of vaccine while at the same time assuring that there is an adequate distribution of influenza vaccine. You may submit completed forms via email to flu.2015-2016@dhhs.nc.gov, fax it to **1-800-544-3058** or mail it to the address below. Orders may be modified or cancelled by your facility until 3 PM on July 31, 2015. Please note that orders not cancelled before 3 PM on July 31, 2015 will be filled according to the original request. **We are unable to estimate ship dates of influenza vaccine.**

First Request
 Second Request
 Third Request
 CANCEL order

Date:	Facility Name:	NCIP Pin:
Delivery address:	City:	Zip Code:
Contact name:	Email address:	Telephone number:

NCIP influenza vaccine is available for the following: **VFC-eligible children through 18 years of age.**

Type	Age Group Covered	Dose Size	Requested Dose Amounts	Presentation	Pres-free or Preservative-containing
Quadrivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV4)	6 months – 35 months	0.25 mL		0.25 mL prefilled syringes	Preservative-free
Quadrivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV4)	36 months – 18 years	0.5 mL		0.5 mL prefilled syringes	Preservative-free
Quadrivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV4)	36 months – 18 years	0.5 mL		0.5 mL single-dose vials	Preservative-free
Quadrivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV4)	6 months – 18 years	Multi-dose vials		Multi-dose vials	Preservative-containing
Quadrivalent live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV4)	2 years – 18 years	0.2 mL		Nasal sprayers	Preservative-free

For Local Health Departments, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) or Rural Health Centers (RHC) ONLY

Available for Non-Medicaid, uninsured women who are pregnant during flu season.

Quadrivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV4) <i>Pregnant Women</i>	Certain females 19 years and up	0.5 mL		0.5 mL prefilled syringes	Preservative-free
Quadrivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV4) <i>Pregnant Women</i>	Certain females 19 years and up	0.5 mL		Multi-dose vials	Preservative containing