



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

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BETH LOVETTE • MPH, BSN, RN – Acting Director,
Division of Public Health

November 13, 2018

MEMORANDUM

TO: North Carolina Immunization Program (NCIP) Participants

FROM: Wendy Holmes, RN, Head *WH*
Immunization Branch

SUBJECT: Important: 2018 Holiday Shipping Schedule

The purpose of this memo is to provide important details regarding the upcoming November and December vaccine shipping schedule. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC), recommends that providers assess their vaccine needs and ability to store vaccine safely to vaccinate your VFC patients through January 2, 2019, and submit orders early before limited delivery occurs. CDC recommends maintaining adequate supply of all vaccines to vaccinate your patients if shipping delays occur.

In the event your practice is closed for an extended length of time during the holidays, wait until your practice re-opens to place an order. Please notify the Immunization Branch Help Desk if your hours of operation or shipping address have changed to avoid shipment delays. The Immunization Branch Help Desk is available to assist with vaccine orders, or questions during normal business hours at 1-877-873-6247.

Reminder: If your practice has a FedEx signature release on file, this allows FedEx to drop off any FedEx package, including vaccine shipments. We strongly encourage you to cancel your signature release on file to prevent a loss of vaccine being left on your doorstep when your practice is closed.

November 2018 Ordering and Shipping Schedule

- The NCIP will accept vaccine orders throughout the month of November, except for the following state government holidays, November 22 and 23, 2018.
- Providers will not receive vaccine shipments from McKesson Specialty or Merck from Friday, November 16 through Friday, November 23, 2018.

State Government Holidays in November	Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23, 2018
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NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • Division of Public Health, Immunization Branch

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December 2018 Ordering and Shipping Schedule

- The NCIP will accept vaccine orders Monday, December 3, through Monday, December 10, 2018.
- The last day orders will be accepted is Monday, December 10, by 11:00 am. to avoid a delay in shipment.
- Orders received after 11:00 am on Monday, December 10, will not be processed until Wednesday, January 2, 2019.
- Vaccine shipments for orders placed on Monday, December 10, may arrive at your practice during the week of December 17, 2018.
- CDC will not ship vaccine beginning on Tuesday, December 18, through Monday, January 1, 2019.

State Government Holidays in December	Monday, December 24 through Wednesday, December 26, 2018
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January 2019 Ordering and Shipping Schedule

- The NCIP will resume its normal vaccine ordering and shipping schedule on Wednesday, January 2, 2019.

State Government Holidays in January	Tuesday, January 1, and Monday, January 21, 2019
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Except for state government holidays, the Immunization Branch Help Desk will be available at 1-877-873-6247 to answer your questions.

cc: SMT Regional Immunization Staff CO Staff Vaccine Manufacturers Frank Skwara Terri Pennington
Peter Graber Ann Nichols Harita Patel Taryn Edwards Gregg Griggs Elizabeth Hudgins