



Happy Fall! Thank you for your continued participation in the VFC Program.

*****Vaccine Orders for November through December*****

With holiday months just around the corner and shipping shutdowns, providers will need to evaluate VFC inventory needed for November and December 2022. Providers will need to order enough VFC stock in November to last through January 1, 2023.

*****VFC Recertification*****

Annual VFC Recertification will occur December 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. The recertification process will be completed online within ShowMeVax. VFC providers can contact a VFC Consultant or the VFC-SMV Help Desk for assistance with the recertification process. If your clinic's initial enrollment paperwork was approved more than six months ago, you will need to complete the recertification process. If it has been less than six months, the recertification is waived. Watch the SMV News and your email for more information and instructions for completing recertification.

*****Flu Vaccine*****

VFC flu vaccines cannot be borrowed and administered to a privately insured patient at any time.

Our VFC flu allocation is currently limited and orders may need to be adjusted to ensure all providers receive a portion of vaccine. This is temporary however, clinics should not be scheduled until sufficient stock has been received.

A special allowance for 317-purchased flu vaccine is allowed by the CDC this year to vaccinate all adults regardless of insurance status. This special allowance is to reduce barriers and to increase the opportunities for flu vaccination, especially while COVID-19 continues to circulate. Priority for 317 flu vaccine should be given to individuals without other means of receiving flu vaccine, and screening for insurance is recommended if the vaccine is administered in an office setting.

*****VFC Primary and Back-Up Contact Annual Training Requirement*****

The Primary and Back-Up VFC Contacts must complete an annual VFC training requirement. The annual training component may be met by any of the following:

- VFC411 located at <https://health.mo.gov/living/wellness/immunizations/>, scroll to bottom of page and click on VFC Education. All four modules must be completed; attendees will receive a certificate upon completion of the fourth module;
- CDC You Call the Shots – VFC Program module and Storage and Handling module located at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/youcalltheshots.html> (certificates for both completed modules required);

- Acknowledgement of Receipt from VFC Site Visit – Primary and/or Backup must have been present at the site visit and participated in the site visit. Storage and Handling visits do not count as a site visit for the training component requirement.

VFC Stock and Ordering

When placing a vaccine order, VFC providers should be utilizing the ‘Order Forecast’ feature in ShowMeVax (SMV) to ensure they are ordering appropriate stock for the timeframe. The ‘Order Forecast’ feature will show the amount of doses ordered the same time one year ago plus thirty days. The ‘Order Forecast’ feature is located with the order form for each vaccine line item. By clicking on the ‘Selection Action’ arrow, you can forecast by intent: Adult, Pediatric, or Both.

For example if you administered 10 doses of a VFC vaccine you should only order 10 doses of that vaccine for the month. If you have ordering questions please contact your VFC Consultant or the VFC-SMV Help Desk.

VFC and 317 orders must be placed separately in ShowMeVax.

Borrowing of Public Vaccine

Administering a public vaccine to a non-VFC-eligible patient is considered borrowing. Borrowing should be a rare and unplanned occurrence. This includes LPHAs administering 317 vaccine to VFC eligible patients. In the unlikely event that VFC vaccine is administered to a non-VFC eligible patient, a [borrowing form](#) must be completed and the vaccine will need to be reconciled appropriately in ShowMeVax.

Immunization Quality Improvement for Providers (IQIP)

Vaccination rates for infants, children and adolescents have fallen due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The IQIP Program can help providers by offering strategies to increase vaccination rates by providing resources and trainings for clinic staff. During the initial visit an IQIP Consultant will review your clinic’s current immunization rate found in SMV and review your current clinic flow as it relates to immunizations. Your IQIP Consultant will be reaching out to schedule a visit. If you have questions, please contact Lana Hudanick at Lana.Hudanick@health.mo.gov.



October 2022 Updates

Returning Spring 2023

The VFC and IQIP Team will be conducting in person regional VFC411 trainings. Stay tuned for the dates, times and locations.

Cold-Chain Shipment Change

Beginning Oct 12, 2022 McKesson began utilizing an improved reusable shipping solution for some of the refrigerated VFC vaccine shipments shipping out of Memphis, TN.



The new EcoFlex cooler will offer performance improvements and an opportunity to reduce waste. This upgrade has many benefits, including a better customer experience, a more durable and improved shipping solution, and reusable materials. This change also provides supply chain protection by re-using the shipper instead of requiring the production of a new shipper for every order. Initially, this will replace the current single-use large and then the extra-large Styrofoam shippers and may expand to other size shippers in the future.

Providers will ship them back to the vendor, Cold Chain Technologies, where they will be inspected, cleaned and refurbished for re-use. A prepaid UPS return label will be included on the inner flap of each EcoFlex cooler shipped. McKesson asks that the providers return the coolers via UPS on their next delivery day. Providers will not need to schedule a pick-up if they have a regular UPS delivery. Due to the increased cost of these solutions, the return of the cooler is critical to the success of this implementation.

Please Note: Expired vaccines should not be returned in these packages. Expired vaccine returns should continue to be returned as per the Distribution Guide.

Applicable customers should be receiving in their current shipping solution a notice of the change.

Each new shipping solution will include a package insert with handling instructions.

If you may have any further questions, please contact McKesson VFC Customer Service at 1-877-822-7746.