

Health Advisory:

Reinstatement Of *Haemophilus influenzae* Type B (Hib) Booster Dose

July 1, 2009

This document will be updated as new information becomes available. The current version can always be viewed at <http://www.dhss.mo.gov>

The Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services (DHSS) is now using 4 types of documents to provide important information to medical and public health professionals, and to other interested persons:

Health Alerts convey information of the highest level of importance which warrants immediate action or attention from Missouri health providers, emergency responders, public health agencies, and/or the public.

Health Advisories provide important information for a specific incident or situation, including that impacting neighboring states; may not require immediate action.

Health Guidances contain comprehensive information pertaining to a particular disease or condition, and include recommendations, guidelines, etc. endorsed by DHSS.

Health Updates provide new or updated information on an incident or situation; can also provide information to update a previously sent Health Alert, Health Advisory, or Health Guidance; unlikely to require immediate action.

Health Advisory
July 1, 2009

**FROM: MARGARET T. DONNELLY
DIRECTOR**

**SUBJECT: Reinstatement Of *Haemophilus influenzae* Type B (Hib)
Booster Dose**

Effective immediately, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in consultation with the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), and American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), is recommending reinstatement of the booster dose of *Haemophilus influenzae* Type B (Hib) vaccine for children 12 to 15 months who have completed the primary series.

Production of Merck Hib vaccine products is still suspended. However, two other Hib containing vaccines, ActHIB and Pentacel, manufactured by Sanofi-Pasteur are available for use. Sufficient vaccine will be available to administer the primary series at 2, 4, and 6 months and a booster dose on time. Older children for whom the booster dose was deferred should receive their Hib booster dose at the **next routinely scheduled visit** or medical encounter. Although supply is sufficient to reinstate the booster dose and begin catch-up vaccination, supply is not sufficient to support a mass notification process to contact all children with deferred Hib booster doses. When additional Hib-containing vaccine becomes available to support active recall, CDC and the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program will communicate this information to providers.

Providers with questions about their privately purchased supplies of monovalent Hib Vaccine (ActHIB) or DTaP-IPV/Hib (Pentacel) should contact Sanofi Pasteur's customer service department (800-822-2463). Providers with questions regarding VFC vaccine orders should contact their VFC Program Liaison (800-219-3224). VFC providers should only place orders for a 4-6 week supply of vaccine, due to the fact that the VFC Program will continue to receive a monthly allotment of Hib-containing vaccine from CDC.

Providers should order ActHIB vaccine for children who have already received 4 doses of DTaP. We do not encourage providers to give Pentacel unless a child needs all components of the combination vaccine. However, a mismatch might exist between patient vaccination needs and the available stock of different vaccine formulations (combination products versus single-antigen vaccines). If DTaP-IPV/Hib (Pentacel) is the **ONLY** Hib-containing vaccine available, this combination product can be used to complete the series of Hib vaccination, even if the child already has received all the necessary doses of DTaP and IPV.

For your information, a recent Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) article entitled "Updated Recommendations for Use of *Haemophilus influenzae* Type b (Hib) Vaccine: Reinstatement of the Booster Dose at Ages 12-15 Months" can be accessed at http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5824a5.htm?s_cid=mm5824a15e.

Additional information for providers and patients is expected to be available from CDC by mid-July at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vac-gen/shortages/default.htm>.

Questions should be directed to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services' (DHSS') Bureau of Immunization Assessment and Assurance at (573) 751-6124 or (800) 219-3224.

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