

Pentacel Shortage Update

Shortage Continues

The Missouri Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program will not receive any Pentacel vaccine for April or May, **and will not be able to process any Pentacel vaccine orders during these two months.**

Sanofi had originally planned to make additional doses available in April 2013. However, as a result of an unexpected delay in the process needed to release new doses of Pentacel vaccine, additional doses will not be available until June 2013. We do anticipate a limited amount of Pentacel vaccine to become available in June and this shortage to continue through early September.

While this situation is not ideal, we want to assure you that an ample supply of single-entity DTaP, Hib, and IPV vaccine is available. Pediarix vaccine, which contains DTaP, Hep B, and IPV, is also available and is approved for the first three doses of the DTaP and IPV primary series, which is usually given at 2, 4, and 6 months of age. The final dose of Pediarix must not be administered before an infant is 6 months old to coincide with the Hepatitis B vaccine schedule.

Remember to follow the recommended minimum intervals for all vaccines when switching between combination and single-antigen vaccines.

Please contact Missouri's VFC program at 800.219.3224, if you have any questions.

