April 2023 Updates

Welcome Spring! Thank you for your continued participation in the VFC Program.

***VFC Consultants***
The VFC Program would like to welcome our two new VFC Consultants, Michelle Trussell and Mai Rickard! A new Regional Immunization Contact map is coming soon.

***Reconciliation and Temperature Documentation***
Reconciliation and temperature documentation are due monthly, no exceptions, even when a vaccine order is not being placed. Both items must be completed from the 1st of the month through the 14th of the month for the entire previous month.

***Primary and Back-Up VFC Contacts***
Each VFC provider must have a primary and back-up VFC contact. The contacts must be kept current at all times in ShowMeVax. If the primary contact is out of the clinic for an extended time frame, providers must update the contact information for a temporary primary contact to receive communication regarding orders, shipments etc.

***PIN***
Each VFC provider has a unique PIN (Provider Identification Number). Please ensure you are including your PIN on all documents and emails sent to the VFC program to avoid delays in processing.

***Public Stock Borrowing***
If you borrow public stock (VFC, CHIP, 317) to administer to a public stock eligible patient (VFC, CHIP, 317), you must complete a paper borrowing form. You do not have to complete the last column on the right of the borrowing form (Returned Vaccine Lot #) with the return date; enter the stock used and the stock that was borrowed, i.e. VFC for CHIP, 317 for VFC, etc. Public stock must be reported as administered in ShowMeVax as the actual stock that was borrowed.

***Rotarix Suspension***
The Rotarix oral dosing applicator-only presentation does NOT require reconstitution or dilution before use.

***VFC Stock and Ordering***
When placing a vaccine order, VFC providers should be utilizing the ‘Order Forecast’ feature in ShowMeVax 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.
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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.

***Digital Data Logger (DDL) Thermometers***
If your clinic needs a DDL, please reach out to your VFC Consultant or the VFC-SMV Help Desk. A DDL must be used for any storage of public (VFC, CHIP, 317) stock.

If you have a new Fisher Scientific Traceable DDL from the VFC Program, please be sure to set the date, the alarms, turn on the alarm, and clear the minimum/maximum each day after reading and documenting the temperature. The Fisher Scientific Traceable DDL must be plugged into an outlet in order to download the data from the DDL.

Please do not contact Berlinger USA about recalibration or replacement of a Berlinger DDL if you have received that DDL from Missouri’s VFC program. The Berlinger DDL has a one-time only use lithium ion battery and the company does not recalibrate this DDL.

***Merck’s MMRV Family of Vaccines***
On March 6, 2023 Merck announced that MMR-II, Varivax, and ProQuad vaccines could be administered intramuscularly or subcutaneously.

***VFC411***
We had our first VFC411 trainings in four years in Springfield, Joplin, Sikeston and West Plains and they were a complete success! We had great discussions and they will keep getting better as we go along. If you have not already signed up for a VFC411 training near you, please do so today! See the attached flyer for dates and locations. To register, please visit https://health.mo.gov/living/wellness/immunizations/vfc411form.php.

***COVID-19 Clinical Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA)***
CDC is hosting a COCA call on May 11, 2023 at 1pm. The call will review the new COVID-19 vaccination guidelines as well as expectation for the public health emergency ending on May 11. The call is free of charge and requires no registration. To access the call, click on the link provided here https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/index.asp