

VFC: The Basics



What is VFC?

- ☐ VFC is a federal entitlement program
- ☐ Created in 1994
- ☐ Provides free vaccine
(to both public & private providers)
- ☐ Automatically covers all ACIP recommended vaccines
- ☐ Eliminates cost as a barrier
- ☐ Keeps children in their medical home

Who is Eligible for VFC?

Children newborn to 19th birthday who are:

- ☐ Medicaid eligible
- ☐ Uninsured
- ☐ Native American/Alaska native
- ☐ Underinsured – Rural Health Center (RHC)/Federal Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or deputized LPHA
 - Children who have health insurance but the insurance does not cover the vaccine(s). VFC would provide the vaccine(s) not covered by insurance
 - Insurance caps vaccine cost at a certain limit

*Underinsured DOES NOT include those with a high, unmet deductible OR those who are unable to pay the deductible

What is a CHIP child?

□ Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

- Part of the MoHealthNet for Kids Program, a health insurance program for uninsured children of low income families who do not have access to affordable health insurance
- Provides insurance to children in families with incomes that are above Medicaid eligibility but without access to private insurance.
- Same card as Medicaid child
- MoHealthNet System
 - Billing codes 73, 74 & 75 are CHIP
- If CHIP child billed as a Medicaid child, payment will be denied because they are not Medicaid

Are CHIP children eligible for VFC vaccine?

□ No. However...

- CDC agreement with VFC program
- Social Services lets VFC program know CHIP providers & number of CHIP children
- VFC program uses funds from Social Services to purchase CHIP vaccine from CDC to ship to CHIP providers
- Packing slip notes how much CHIP vaccine is shipped (if any)

Questions for billing Medicaid/CHIP

MoHealthNet Program
Assistance
573-751-2896

What is Deputization?

- ☐ Deputization is extending VFC authority to vaccinate underinsured VFC eligible children from FQHCs/RHCs to other providers
- ☐ Memorandum of Understanding
 - Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services
 - Local Public Health Agency (LPHA)
 - FQHC/RHC

Vaccines Provided through VFC

DT	Meningococcal B (<i>Bexsero/Trumenba</i>)
DTaP	Meningococcal & Hib (<i>MenHibrix</i>)
DTaP/HB/IPV (<i>Pediarix</i>)	MMR
DTaP/Hib/IPV (<i>Pentacel</i>)	MMRV
DTaP/IPV (<i>Kinrix</i>)	Pneumococcal 13-valent (<i>Prevnar</i>)
Hep A	Pneumococcal 23-valent
Hep B	Rotavirus (<i>RotaTeq/Rotarix</i>)
Hib	Td
HPV	Tdap
IPV	Varicella
Influenza	
Meningococcal (<i>Menactra/Menveo</i>)	

Fraud and Abuse

CDC defines fraud as:

An intentional deception or misrepresentation made by a person with the knowledge that the deception could result in some unauthorized benefit to himself or some other person. It includes any act that constitutes fraud under applicable federal or state law.

Fraud and Abuse (cont'd)

CDC defines abuse as:

Provider practices that are inconsistent with sound fiscal, business, or medical practices and result in an unnecessary cost to the Medicaid program, [and/or including actions that result in an unnecessary cost to the immunization program, a health insurance company, or a patient]; or in reimbursement for services that are not medically necessary or that fail to meet professionally recognized standards for health care.

Provider Requirements

- ☐ Complete annual re-enrollment paperwork
 - CDC requirement
 - Forms available at www.health.mo.gov/immunizations
 - Template for Vaccine Management Plan (VM) & Emergency Response (ER) plans
 - Provider Profile
- ☐ Screen for patient eligibility at each visit

Provider Requirements (cont'd)

- ☐ Waive charge for the cost of VFC vaccine
 - Administration fee up to \$21.53 per dose/stick
 - Cannot deny immunization for inability to pay administration fee
- ☐ Comply with immunization schedules, dosages & contraindications established by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)

Provider Requirements (cont'd)

VFC statute, at section 1928(c) (2) (B) (i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396s(c) (2) (B) (i)), VFC providers must offer the full list of VFC vaccines according to the schedule determined by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) in its VFC resolutions, except when in the provider's medical judgment, subject to accepted medical practice, the circumstances of an individual VFC patient makes such vaccination medically inappropriate.

*A caveat to the statement above involves "specialty providers" such as OB/GYN, birthing hospitals, adolescent only practices that are allowed to carry vaccines that cover the population they serve.

Provider Requirements (cont'd)

- ☐ Comply with refrigeration requirements
- ☐ Develop & implement Vaccine Management (VM) & Emergency Response (ER) plans
- ☐ Submit monthly accountability & temperature log
- ☐ Maintain all documentation for at least three years
- ☐ Provide Vaccine Information Statements (VIS) for each vaccine, each time & document

Provider Requirements (cont'd)

- ☐ Participate in both announced & unannounced visits
- ☐ Be an active participant in Quality Improvement activities
- ☐ Primary & Back-up VFC Coordinator must fulfill annual educational requirements
 - Compliance Site visit (not an Unannounced visit)
 - You Call the Shots
 - VFC Management
 - Storage & Handling
 - VFC411

Receiving & Managing VFC Vaccine



Vaccine Ordering

- ☐ Determine vaccine needs based on data
 - Review Vaccine Tally Sheets
 - Review doses on hand
 - Look at usage from same time last year
 - Try to maintain a 4-6 week supply of vaccine
- ☐ VFC reviews all vaccine orders - may adjust
- ☐ Current accountability & temp logs
- ☐ VOS or Vaccine order form (include PIN)

Submitting Forms

- ☐ Accountability is due during your order schedule--
No matter the number of doses administered
- ☐ No accountability received by VFC program=
Vaccine order will NOT be processed
- ☐ Temperature logs are due the 1st business day of
every month
- ☐ Reports for borrowed or transferred vaccines

Vaccine Ordering System (VOS) submission

- ☐ Electronic submission of monthly forms
 - Inventory & Dosage, Order, Transfer, Wastage & Temperature logs
- ☐ Manage accountability in VOS
- ☐ Track orders & shipments
- ☐ Has saved hours per month in submitting orders
- ☐ Vaccine order will NOT be processed if accountability is not received

Things to Keep in Mind before ordering

- ☐ VFC providers may choose vaccine brand (not required to order all brands)
- ☐ Cross out vaccines not used to avoid ordering errors
- ☐ Indicate the number of doses needed, not boxes
- ☐ Delivery schedule is extremely important
- ☐ Be aware of vacation or holidays

Receiving Your Vaccine

- ☐ McKesson supplies all vaccine (except Varicella & ProQuad) to all providers
 - Varicella & ProQuad are direct shipped from Merck
- ☐ One order per month
Emergency orders are allowed, but with approval by VFC liaison
- ☐ Vaccine is delivered to your office based on your reported office hours
- ☐ Train several staff to handle shipments

Receiving Your Vaccine (cont'd)

Upon arrival:

- ☐ Immediately unpack the vaccine & store
- ☐ If temperature monitors are out of range or a warm indicator is not activated, call McKesson at 1-877-833-7123
- ☐ Examine contents for damage
- ☐ Check contents against packing slip & order
- ☐ Check vaccine expiration dates
- ☐ Assure shipping time <48 hours
- ☐ If there are other problems with vaccine contact your VFC liaison

Vaccine Tally Sheets

- ☐ Utilize tally sheets provided by VFC
- ☐ Do not need to submit to VFC Program
- ☐ Record ALL information
 - ☐ Patient identifier & date
 - ☐ Age group
 - ☐ VFC eligibility
 - ☐ Each dose of vaccine administered
- ☐ Black out vaccines not used
- ☐ Use check marks or med log method

Borrowed Vaccine

- ☐ Do not do it except in emergencies (i.e., declared outbreak) or to avoid a missed opportunity
- ☐ If you do it, track it
- ☐ Document by patient name & lot number
- ☐ Borrowing Report
- ☐ Vaccine Replacement Report
- ☐ Do not borrow from VFC flu in any situation

How Do I Make it Balance?

- ☐ Recheck tally sheets
- ☐ Recount the vaccine
- ☐ Did you account for all vaccine received?
- ☐ Go over billing records or the appointment book

Transferring Vaccine

- ☐ Contact your liaison for approval prior to transfer
- ☐ Vaccine should be transferred 90 days prior to expiration
- ☐ Report via VOS or paper form after approval received from liaison
- ☐ Should not be a common occurrence
- ☐ Ensure cold chain is maintained

Wasted or Expired Vaccine Returns

- ☐ Remove expired vaccine from the storage unit & identify as "do not use"
- ☐ Complete electronic form & remit via VOS or
- ☐ Report wasted or expired vaccine on Vaccine Wastage & Return Form & fax to VFC program



Wasted or Expired Vaccine Returns (cont'd)

- ☐ VFC enters returns in VTrckS & creates a Vaccine Return Statement with ID number
- ☐ Statement will be faxed or emailed to you for placement in box with vaccine
- ☐ McKesson will mail or email a postage paid return label to your office
- ☐ Only acceptable returns
- ☐ Ice packs are not needed when returning expired vaccine
- ☐ Return via UPS

Excise Tax – What is That?

- ☐ Federal Excise Tax on each dose of vaccine
- ☐ Missouri will receive excise tax reimbursement
- ☐ Excise taxes range from \$.75 to \$3.75
- ☐ Never discard expired vaccine that can be returned to McKesson
- ☐ Return each unopened vial or manufacturer pre-filled syringes to McKesson
