



Monthly Immunization Update August 2018

Dear Providers,

This newsletter is meant to keep you up to date on issues related to vaccines quickly and easily. We welcome your questions and comments. Email us at immunization.program@ventura.org

August is National Immunization Awareness Month: Every year in August, National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) provides an opportunity to raise awareness of the importance of immunization and the need for improving national vaccination coverage levels.

CDC has provided suggestions to help providers promote vaccination during each week of NIAM. Visit <https://www.nphic.org/niam>

The weeks of NIAM month focus on the following groups:

- [Pregnant women \(August 5-11\)](#)
- [Babies and young children \(August 12-18\)](#)
- [Preteen/Teen \(August 19-25\)](#)
- [Adults \(August 26-31\)](#)
- [Back to School \(July/August\)](#)

Related Link

National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit's [Coding and Billing for Adult Vaccinations](#) web page.

VACCINE TIPS:

It's just as important to document vaccines correctly as it is to administer them correctly.

Record these elements for every vaccine you administer:

- vaccine manufacturer
- vaccine lot number
- date the vaccine is administered
- name, office address, and title of the person giving the vaccine
- VIS publication date
- date the VIS is given to the patient/parent/guardian

Report vaccine errors to [VERP](#) and adverse events to [VAERS](#). Review the [VAERS/VERP](#) guide for more information.

Need more training? Review the [IZ Techniques video](#), take the lessons on the [EZIZ Training page](#), and ask your LHD's IZ Program if they offer skills-based training opportunities.

VFC PROVIDERS:

2018-2019 VFC FLU VACCINE INITIAL ORDERS

The California VFC Program will launch the 2018-2019 Influenza Initial Order System in August 2018. The purpose of the initial flu order is to get your practice started with an initial supply for the 2018-2019 Flu Season. It is expected that you will proactively order additional doses as needed throughout the season in supplemental flu ordering. Initial orders will be guided by each clinic's usage of key pediatric and adolescent vaccines as reported through routine VFC vaccine orders. This is to ensure that each practice receives an

adequate supply of VFC flu doses in alignment with the number of children that may have been immunized during the past year, as well as reported VFC eligible populations. As in previous flu seasons, providers will receive their flu vaccine doses in multiple shipments throughout the season. Influenza vaccine supplies for different manufacturers arrive at VFC’s national vaccine distributor at different times and in multiple shipments throughout the season. Additional instructions regarding the initial VFC flu order will be provided when the ordering system becomes available in August 2018.

INFLUENZA VACCINATION PLANS

Begin forming your influenza vaccination plans to ensure all children and adolescents in your practice are protected. Review the number of VFC-eligible children in your practice, review influenza vaccination schedules, assess the available space in your vaccine storage unit to ensure proper storage, etc.

If you have any questions about VFC Program requirements, please contact the VFC Program at 877-2GET-VFC (877-243-8832) or your local VFC Field Representative.

2018-2019 VFC FLU VACCINE BRAND AVAILABILITY

The following products make up the VFC flu vaccine supply for the 2018-2019 Influenza season. Although overall vaccine supply is adequate to meet provider needs, doses available under each brand are limited. Therefore, brand preference will not be available for providers as in previous years. Instead, providers will be assigned a specific brand product for their practice once VFC influenza vaccine ordering is available later this summer.

Below is a list of all influenza products that will be available for ordering through the California VFC Program’s Initial Flu Order system for the 2018-2019 season.

Age Group	Product	Presentation	Manufacturer	NDC Code
6 months - 18 years	Fluarix® ^	0.5mL single-dose syringe, 10 pack^	GSK	58160-0898-52
	FluLaval® ^	0.5mL single-dose syringe, 10 pack^	GSK	19515-0909-52
3-18 years	Fluzone® ^	5mL multi-dose vial	Sanofi	49281-0629-15
	Flucelvax® +	0.5mL single dose syringe, 10 pack	Seqirus	70461-0318-03
6-35 months	Pediatric Fluzone® (limited doses may be available for ordering later in the season)	0.25mL single dose syringe, 10 pack^	Sanofi	49281-0518-25

^ Preservative-free vaccines should be prioritized for administration to pregnant teens under 18 years of age but may also be used in children 3-18 years of age. According to the Health and Safety Code Section 124172, pregnant women or children younger than three years old may only receive vaccine doses that contain trace levels or no mercury.

+ Flucelvax may not be used in patients younger than 4 years of age.

The California Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program Provider Operations Manual (POM) has been updated and posted on www.eziz.org

Keep in mind that all VFC communications are always posted on VFC’s website, www.eziz.org
 You can also view this information on <http://www.vchca.org/immunization-program>
 or follow us on:



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