



Dear Providers,

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

Flu season has arrived in California, CDPH encourage healthcare providers to continue to:

- **Offer influenza Immunizations.** Provide a strong recommendation and offer influenza immunizations to all patients 6 months of age and older, especially those at high risk for complications. All available vaccine formulations this season contain a pH1N1 component. If you do not offer flu vaccine, refer patients to the online flu vaccine finder: <http://flushot.healthmap.org/>. Ensure that your staff gets the flu vaccine, too.
- **Make sure that sick patients get prompt care.** Encourage all persons of all ages with influenza-like illness who are at high risk for influenza complications to seek care promptly to determine if treatment with influenza antiviral medications is warranted.

Resources:

- [CDPH Advisory Severe Influenza H1N1 \(PDF, New Window\)](#)
- [CDPH Influenza Press Release](#)
- Flu education materials are available at: <http://eziz.org/resources/flu-promo-materials/>
- Email attachment: Ventura County has first related deaths please refer to our press release for complete information.

Join us by celebrating Preteen Vaccine Week: February 8-14, 2015!

In celebration of Pre-teen Vaccine Week we will be having a Low Cost/No Cost Preteen Vaccine Clinic on Sunday, February 8, 2015. See Attached flyer for details.

The goal of 2015's Preteen Vaccine Week campaign is raise awareness about California's Tdap requirement for incoming 7th grade students, immunization recommendations for 11-and 12-year-olds, and promote the preteen doctor visit through multiple avenues such as schools, providers, and the media.

ACIP currently recommends that 11- and 12-year-olds receive these vaccines:

- **Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough)**
all students entering 7th grade will need proof of a Tdap booster shot before starting school.
- **HPV (human papillomavirus)**
Boys and girls need 3 shots for full protection.
- **Meningococcal**
Preteens need one shot now and a booster at age 16.
- **Influenza (flu)**
Flu vaccine is needed every year!
- **Chickenpox**
Many kids didn't get their second chickenpox shot. Check with the doctor

Join us to celebrate Pre-teen Vaccine Week, on Sunday, February 8, 2015. See Attached flyer.

To VFC Providers:

New Temperature Logs and Resources for 2015: The California VFC Program is launching updated temperature monitoring logs and resources for use effective January 2015. This communication describes key changes. The revisions will help VFC Providers more accurately document temperatures and take action if temperatures go out of range. Please recycle unused versions of older materials at the end of December 2014 and begin using the new materials in the New Year.

2015 VFC REFRIGERATOR AND FREEZER TEMPERATURE LOGS: The new refrigerator and freezer logs are available in both Celsius and Fahrenheit. Both versions include the following key changes:

- The revised 2-page format, back by popular demand, displays Days 1-15 and 16-31, instead of the current 4-page format.
- New fields are added to specify the location of storage units. This will be particularly helpful for clinics with multiple units.
- Temperature ranges are displayed in color and include step-by-step guidance to take in the case of too warm and too cold temperatures. This will help providers identify and respond to out-of-range temperatures.
- A signature and acknowledgement section is added. Staff who monitor and record temperatures must sign and initial each entry, acknowledging the logged temperature is correct and that appropriate action was taken.
- A new quality assurance component is added. Each week the practice's on-site supervisor must review the completed log and verify it was appropriately and accurately completed, that out of-range temperatures were identified, and that any action taken was documented.
- An excursion page for each temperature recording period (Days 1-15 and 16-31) is added to provide space to describe an incident, corrective actions taken, and results.

View complete notification from VFC <http://eziz.org/assets/docs/VFCletterIZB-FY-14-15-2-NewTemperatureLogsAndResourcesFor2015.pdf>

2015 VFC Recertification is COMING SOON! VFC's Recertification is a federal requirement that must be completed annually by enrolled providers in order to continue to receive publicly-funded vaccines. As in previous years, once the system is available, providers will have 30 days to complete the process. The following information may help your practice get a head start with this process by collecting required information for Recertification submission, and get an advance peak of key changes for continued participation during 2015.

2015 VFC EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENT (EZIZ LESSONS)

To access the online 2015 VFC Recertification page, key clinic staff must complete the federal educational requirement lessons available on our website www.EZIZ.org.

The 2015 VFC Educational requirement has been expanded. In addition to the clinic's primary Vaccine Coordinator, the clinic's Back-Up Vaccine Coordinator will also be required to take 5 lessons. Additionally, the Provider of Record and Provider of Record Designee will each be required to take 4 lessons.

Please remind your staff to pay close attention to communication citing or including VFC program requirements that may be coming from organizations or individuals, and NOT from the VFC Program. These communications may or may not necessarily or accurately reflect program requirements.

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://vchca.org/public-health/for-health-care-providers> or follow us

on:  

Phone: (805) 981-5211 Fax: (805) 981-5210 immunization.program@ventura.org