

As of Tuesday, September 6th, 2016, influenza vaccine ordering has begun. Last week the Arizona Immunization Program Office (AIPO) allowed CRS/DD sites and County Health Departments to order flu vaccine from the presentations that are currently available/in stock. Currently the State of Arizona has about 32% of our total allocation.

Influenza vaccine for the 2016-2017 flu season was pre-booked in March 2016. Flumist **will not** be available this season and Flucelvax **will** be available this season. There will be 7 different presentations; 76% of them are single dose syringes as per provider preference. (Providers were polled in January- those responses were not orders or guarantees of doses). Single dose syringes take up much more space than vials-please keep that in mind when placing orders. Please also preplan for vaccine storage needs.

The Arizona Immunization Program Office anticipates having 50% of total allocation by September 30th, and 100% by October 15th.

VFC Influenza Ordering

- The Arizona Immunization Program Office (AIPO) strongly encourages smaller, more frequent orders.
- When placing an Influenza vaccine orders, be sure to place a comment in the comment box in ASIIS that states where AIPO can find submitted temperature logs (entered in cold storage module, via fax, via email).
- Some flu orders may be reduced based on available doses and presentations. This will continue until 100% of the Arizona allocation is received.
- There are no backorders. If your order has been reduced, you will NOT automatically receive the balance of your order. **Additional doses will be delivered ONLY if you place a subsequent order for additional doses of flu vaccine.**

When ordering more flu doses consider:

The number of flu doses you'll need during the ordering period, based on any planned reminder/recall influenza vaccination outreach efforts, and the age of scheduled patients—(1 dose vs 2). Consider how many doses you have on hand, and then order more to complete your need for that ordering period.

You'll need to report vaccine doses administered to date as part of ordering.

Orders ship in full once the State receives its full allocation, make sure you can store all the doses you requested. Orders cannot be canceled once sent for fulfillment.

Only hit the submit button on your order once ASIIS takes a minute to think about your order when you click submit so if you click it 5 or 10 times you actually submit that many separate orders. VFC has to spend about 15 minutes undoing each of those extra orders so it is taking longer to process everyone's requests.

Careful borrowing from private stock while you are able to return VFC doses it is not always the case with private. If you borrow your private stock for VFC patients and then get VFC replacement late in the season you'll want make sure you've only borrowed an amount that you are sure you'll be able to administer later.

VFC Influenza Distribution

- As usual with VFC flu, partial shipments will arrive to the warehouse throughout the season at regular intervals.
- Not all presentations arrive at the same time. You might have to substitute your 1st preference for presentations that VFC has received.
- If you receive a partial shipment, you must reorder the remaining doses needed. Each reorder will require inventory reconciliation and current temp logs.
Note: Orders cannot be approved without temp logs. Be sure to check the ASIIS inventory comment box to make sure there isn't a hold up on your order.

Influenza Guidance with ASIIS

- Flu doses must be received in ASIIS before they are administered to patients.
- Flu doses received should be administered and recorded in ASIIS as soon as possible.
- Orders for additional vaccine may be put on hold or denied if it appears that orders are not received in ASIIS.
- Orders for additional vaccine may be reduced or denied if it appears that previously delivered doses have yet to be administered. (For example: if you received 100 doses and are placing a new order for 75 additional doses and ASIIS shows that you have not administered more than half of the originally delivered doses, your order may be reduced/ denied). Use the comment box if you have a large clinic planned.
- ASIIS information is the only information that the Arizona Immunization Program Office has available to make this determination. Check ASIIS frequently for regular updates and specific notices to providers.

TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL INFLUENZA VACCINATION SEASON

Discuss and outline key strategies to achieve high influenza vaccination coverage rates of your patients and decrease missed opportunities for vaccination.

1. **Recall** in any kids you've seen recently for well visits that missed their VFC flu doses,
2. **Remind** all patients to come in for their annual influenza vaccination,
3. **Expand** hours for influenza vaccination,
4. **Allow** influenza vaccine-only visits,
5. **Track** patients that will be due to return to the practice for a second dose, and
6. **It's not too late!** Flu cases are reported year round in AZ, so continue vaccinating for flu through the spring.

Thank you for letting everyone know when there are problems and for all you do to advocate for your patient's health and wellness