Dear Provider:

Beginning October 1, 2012, Section 317 vaccine may not be used for routine vaccination of any fully insured individual. The CDC defines fully insured as:

Anyone with insurance that covers the cost of vaccine, even if the insurance includes a high deductible or co-pay, of if a claim for the cost of the vaccine and its administration would be denied for payment by the insurance carrier because the plan’s deductible had not been met.

Section 317 vaccines are a critical resource for filling gaps in the nation’s immunization program. It is important that Section 317 vaccine be directed to those with the least ability to pay for vaccination and to assure timely response to outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases. In order to assure that 317 vaccine remains available for those who truly have no other option, it is important that all fully insured children are vaccinated with vaccines purchased through their insurance. We want to assure you that the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program will continue to serve eligible children and adolescents

This 317 policy clarification, which specifies that Section 317 vaccines should not be used for routine vaccination of fully insured children, adolescents and adults, affects both the public and private sectors. Starting October 1, 2012, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will no longer vaccinate persons who are fully insured. Private physicians who have been referring their patients to public health clinics for routine vaccination will need to consider how to meet the preventive care needs of their fully insured patients.

The Section 317 Immunization Program has contributed to one of the most successful public health interventions in history. It is essential that we collectively provide good stewardship of this precious national resource by ensuring Section 317 vaccine is directed to those most at need. We understand that there are complex issues which will require thoughtful consideration, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is committed to working with you over the coming months to find solutions. For more information regarding this policy clarification, review the [317 Q&A](http://eziz.org/assets/docs/317QandA.pdf) or contact \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Additional resources can be found at [EZIZ.org](http://www.eziz.org).