

# Vaccines for Children Program

# **VFC Program Update**

#### **Transition of Flu Seasons**

As we wrap-up this current flu season and begin to gear up for the 2021-2022 season, the VFC Program closed flu vaccine ordering for the 2020-2021 season on Friday, June 11, 2021. Any remaining flu doses in inventory are still viable until expiration. Please remember these key points:

- Take every opportunity to assess the immunization status of all incoming patients, including flu vaccines. If you still have doses on-hand and have patients under 8 years of age who have not yet received their second dose, recommend they receive it during their next scheduled immunization appointment before the end of this season.
- Do not remove viable vaccine doses from your storage unit prior to expiration. This will result in preventable negligent vaccine wastage.
- Upon expiration, remove expired doses from your vaccine storage unit immediately.
   Complete and submit a VFC Return Form and request a return shipment label by logging into your <u>MyVFCVaccines</u> account.

- Do not return any expired private vaccine doses, broken vials or syringes, or open multi-dose vials.
- Each return shipping label requested in the Return Form is associated with that specific Return ID. Therefore, ONLY ship doses listed in the corresponding Return ID/Form.
- Return shipping labels are only valid for 30 days; ensure expired flu doses are returned to McKesson as soon as possible.

Coming soon! In July, we will send additional details on the next phase of the upcoming VFC 2021-22 flu season.

## **Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) Events**

With summer here, fire season is just around the corner. Be prepared!

- If your site does not have a generator, we recommend having a partner facility to move vaccine to if power is lost. (The partner facility may need to be out of the immediate area.)
- Make sure your Vaccine Management Plan, including the emergency section, is up to date.
- Keep transport containers/data loggers on hand and ready to go. Some containers may be qualified to hold appropriate temperature for a long period of time.
- As soon as you hear there will be a power shutoff, start planning and determine if you may need to move the vaccine.
- Contact your local health department or the VFC Customer Service Center if you need assistance.

#### **Customer Service Center Closures**

The VFC Customer Service Center will be closed on the following day:

• Monday, July 5, 2021 (in observance of Independence Day)

Orders will continue to be received throughout this closure. Normal business hours will resume on the following day, Tuesday, July 6.

### Thank you,



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