

Good News! Thank you all for sharing your updates on VFC flu vaccine inventory. It looks like flu doses are arriving pretty steadily and that there are no other non-flu VFC vaccine shipment delays.

Flu Shipping Delays

- Manufacturer delays with a slow growing B strain and changes in the ASIIS/VFC ordering interface meant that for a while AZ was receiving VFC flu doses much slower than private doses this year. Orders should be coming in faster and in larger quantities this week and next.
- As usual with VFC flu, partial shipments will arrive throughout the season at regular intervals. VFC has yet to receive adequate supplies for Sanofi Pasteur's 0.25mL Fluzone® Quadrivalent P-Free Pediatric and MedImmune's FluMist®. Both manufacturers are experiencing delivery delays for these products.
- As vaccine supply becomes available, additional doses will be shipped to fulfill providers' initial flu vaccine requests. You can expect fulfillment of 100% of initial orders of Pediatric Fluzone® by mid-November, and FluMist® by late December 2015.

VFC Influenza Distribution

- The Arizona VFC program has added staff and are working diligently to manually push all approved pre-orders through McKesson which is why most offices have been getting shipments this week.
- If you received a partial order of your pre-booked VFC flu you will not need to reorder. The remaining requested doses will be sent as soon as they are available at McKesson. (pre-booked orders only)

Note: Some initial pre-orders were not approved because of missing temp logs. Be sure to check the ASIIS inventory comment box to make sure there isn't a hold up on your order.

- Once the pre-orders are complete there will be an opportunity to order additional doses of flu. For additional doses you will need to generate a new order with temp logs and reconciliation. Check pending orders before placing new orders. Back and new orders are being processed all at once.

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 doses). 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 supplemental ordering.

Orders ship in full, so 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.

Influenza Borrowing Guidance

- If VFC seasonal influenza stock is not yet available, providers may use their private-stock seasonal influenza vaccine to vaccinate VFC-eligible children.
- The doses of private stock used on a VFC-eligible children can later be replaced when VFC stock becomes available.
- The Borrowing Report must be completed for all influenza vaccine borrowed.
- Always use the most current version of the Borrowing Report available on the [VFC website](#).

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.

Gremlins

The ASIIS VFC Ordering system had a recent upgrade that lead to the delay in flu shipments. In addition some offices have reported vaccines listed in their VFC Inventory Report that they didn't order or receive and delays in their non-flu VFC shipments.

ADHS has been working to fix the bugs so that you receive the vaccine you need to keep kids healthy and well. ASIIS will have an update soon that will give you accurate reports these gremlins will not impact your reconciliation or your orders, which will be processed in the usual timely manner.

Thank you

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