



(717) 787-5681

March 24, 2009

Dear Provider:

Exciting changes are happening to the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has already restructured how VFC vaccine is distributed to health care providers. These changes were done to provide cost savings to the VFC program, to allow CDC to respond more quickly to vaccine shortages, and to focus as many people as possible on public health activities rather than on vaccine distribution and management. This has been extremely successful, thanks to your support.

In the coming months, the PA VFC Program will begin to implement the next phase of changes to vaccine distribution. We are preparing to implement Economic Order Quantity (EOQ), a schedule for you to order VFC vaccine based on your storage capacity and annual vaccine usage. These changes will have significant benefits to our vaccine distributor, McKesson, allowing them to more efficiently process and ship VFC vaccine orders. In addition, this will mean better response time for receiving your vaccine.

What does this mean to you? Many of you will be changing how frequently you order vaccine. Some of you may see no change in vaccine order patterns. Included with your 2009 provider handbook, in Section 6, is the Vaccine Order and Accountability Form. On the top right corner is the indication of how often your practice should be ordering vaccine (Order Freq: Monthly, Bi-Monthly, or Quarterly). Over the next six weeks we'll be forwarding individual provider instructions with more in-depth information and timelines for implementation of the EOQ.

Thank you again for your support of the Vaccines for Children program and our efforts to ensure that this program is as efficient and successful at vaccinating as many children as possible.

Sincerely,

Cindy Findley, M.S.W.
Vaccines for Children
Program Manager

