

**BLASTFAX**

**Seasonal Influenza Vaccine**

*The Chapter has been asked by the Georgia VFC Program to pass on the following message regarding Seasonal Influenza Vaccine.*

**Vaccine supply/allocation** – At this time, the state expects seasonal influenza vaccine to be available through VFC during August - November. The vaccine manufacturers have different timetables for delivering vaccine (e.g. Novartis expects to ship vaccine to McKesson in September (50%) and October (50%) while MedImmune expects to ship in all four months). The bulk of vaccine is expected to be available for distribution in September and October. VFC providers should be prepared to receive vaccine over that span of time.

**Order entry** - The software system used to place all VFC orders nationally, VACMAN, had a glitch that resulted in a delay in entering flu orders. The glitch seems to be fixed and the VFC Program will now be entering test orders for transmittal to CDC. Provided that the test goes well, order entry will commence for the small amount of vaccine that is available for distribution so far.

**When? When? When?** - The VFC Program is being flooded with questions about flu shipments. Vaccine shipments will be entered starting in August and continue through November dependant on notification from the CDC that vaccine is available for distribution. As such, providers should expect to see vaccine shipments in September, October, and November. McKesson is shipping on a three-day shipping timeline (not the regular 5-day shipping timeline) so should arrive in a timely manner once they're entered. Seasonal influenza vaccine will come separately from monthly shipments.

**FluMist Vaccine** - On the 2009-10 flu vaccine estimates submitted earlier this year, any provider requesting over 50% of their total vaccine doses as FluMist has had their total FluMist allocation decreased to allow for distribution to all providers requesting this vaccine. The total number of vaccine doses to be shipped was not cut. Should all formulations of flu vaccine ordered be exhausted by a provider then additional vaccine orders will be considered. Until then, the VFC Program has allocated 100% of the FluMist vaccine that has been ordered by the state and cannot meet additional requests.

An update on novel H1N1 influenza activities in Georgia will be sent from the Chapter office on Monday, August 31, 2009.

If additional information is needed please contact a VFC staff member at 404-657-5013.

*For questions or concerns regarding this blastfax or any other immunization information, please contact the Chapter's Immunization Coordinator, Mike Chaney at (404) 881-5094 or [mchaney@gaaap.org](mailto:mchaney@gaaap.org).*