

**Blast Communication**  
**Urgent Message from the Georgia VFC Program Regarding Influenza Vaccine Orders**

*(The information below was sent to VFC enrolled providers by the Georgia Immunization Program. Since FluMist® will not be supplied by the VFC Program this year, the Program is giving providers an opportunity to change their influenza vaccine orders. Please visit the link below and note that the deadline for completion is to be no later than **Wednesday, June 29, 2016**)*

Dear VFC Provider,

At their June 22, 2016 meeting, CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted in favor of an interim recommendation that live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV), also known as the "nasal spray" flu vaccine, should not be used during the 2016-2017 flu season. ACIP continues to recommend annual flu vaccination, with either the inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV) or recombinant influenza vaccine (RIV) for everyone 6 months and older. The ACIP vote follows data showing poor or relatively lower effectiveness of LAIV from 2013 through 2016.

- 1)FluMist® vaccine will not be shipped through the VFC program during the 2016-2017 influenza season.
- 2)Vaccine manufacturers have projected that as many as 171 million - 176 million doses of flu vaccine will be made available for the 2016-2017 season.
- 3) LAIV accounts for up to 14 million of those doses (about 8% of the total supply of flu vaccine).
- 4) CDC is working with vaccine manufacturers to determine the availability of injectable vaccines to replace the pre-booked FluMist® orders that must be canceled.
- 5) Manufacturers are confident they will be able to fill this gap, but are working to determine what vaccines and at what amounts they will be able to guarantee.

A supplemental survey has been created by GA Immunization to access FluMist® replacement dose counts (the number of injectable vaccines they would like to order to replace their previously pre-booked "VFC" FluMist® doses). The survey may be accessed via the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SUPFLU>.

- Providers will not be able to select brand preferences, but will be allowed to select presentation preference (vials, syringes, etc.).
- Providers will have three business days to review, complete, and return the survey (return no later than June 29, 2016). CDC has set a preliminary deadline for states to submit these requests by July 1.
- Please review your vaccine administration data from the most recent flu season (ending this month) to determine actual vaccine need. Only request dose amounts you will be able to administer to your eligible patient population.

The CDC press release can be found here <http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2016/s0622-laiv-flu.html>

This is a fluid situation. The GA Immunization Program will provide updates and guidance as we receive them.

Vaccines for Children Program

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*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@qaaap.org](mailto:mchaney@qaaap.org)*