

Vaccines for Children

Program Updates

April 7, 2016

Bexsero® 10 packs available via GRITS

Bexsero® 10 packs are now available for ordering via GRITS. Previously providers were required to contact VFC to order the 10 pack presentation via email or over the phone and now providers can place their order for the 10 packs on the manage orders screen. Simply select MNGB1 for single dose syringes or MNGB10 for the 10 packs. You may also order a combination of the two, for example 10 doses of MNGB10 and 5 doses of MNGB1. Remember, only vaccines selected as a preference can be ordered on the manage order screen so be sure your MENINGB preference is set prior to placing your order.

National Infant Immunization Week

National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW) is an annual observance to highlight the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases and celebrate the achievements of immunization programs and their partners in promoting healthy communities.

Since 1994, hundreds of communities across the United States have joined together to celebrate the critical role vaccination plays in protecting our children, communities, and public health.

NIIW 2016 is April 16-23, 2016

Learn more about NIIW here: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/events/niiw/index.html>

Frequently Asked Question of the Month

Q: How late in the season can I vaccinate my patients with influenza vaccine?

A: Peak influenza activity generally occurs in January or February. Providers should continue vaccinating patients throughout the influenza season, including into the spring months (for example, through May), as long as they have unexpired vaccine in stock and unvaccinated patients in their office.

Because influenza occurs in many areas of the world during April through September, vaccine should be given to travelers who missed vaccination in the preceding fall and winter. Another late season use of vaccine is for children younger than age 9 years who needed 2 doses of vaccine but failed to get their second dose. For each of these situations, vaccine can be given through the month of June since most injectable influenza vaccine has a June 30 expiration date.

Vaccine Updates

Pentacel®: Vaccine in short supply through June 2016. , Pentacel orders have been reduced to a 2 month supply. Additional requests for this vaccine will be denied.

Additional Vaccine Requests: VFC will allow request up to 30 doses over the amount listed as "doses needed" on the order screen. Requests over this allowance requires approval.

Shipping Blackout Dates

Monday, May 30

Contact Us

Vaccines for Children Program
Peachtree Street, NW, 13-276
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SPOTLIGHT ON SEROGROUP MENING B



The CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted to issue a Category B recommendation for the use of two serogroup B meningococcal (MenB) vaccines in patients ages 16-23. A MenB vaccine series may be administered to adolescents and young adults aged 16–23 years to provide short-term protection against most strains of serogroup B meningococcal disease. The preferred age for MenB vaccination is 16–18 years.

Use of serogroup B Meningococcal Vaccines in Adolescents and Young Adults: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, 2015

**DID YOU
KNOW?**

MMWR October 23, 2015 / 64(41);1171-6 <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6441a3.htm>

FDA Bexsero® site

<http://www.fda.gov/biologicsbloodvaccines/vaccines/approvedproducts/ucm431374.htm>

Approval letter

<http://www.fda.gov/BiologicsBloodVaccines/Vaccines/ApprovedProducts/ucm431446.htm>

Package insert

<http://www.fda.gov/downloads/biologicsbloodvaccines/vaccines/approvedproducts/ucm431447.pdf>

FDA Trumenba® site

<http://www.fda.gov/biologicsbloodvaccines/vaccines/approvedproducts/ucm421020.htm>

Approval letter

<http://www.fda.gov/biologicsbloodvaccines/vaccines/approvedproducts/ucm421034.htm>

Package insert

<http://www.fda.gov/downloads/BiologicsBloodVaccines/Vaccines/ApprovedProducts/UCM421139.pdf>

The same vaccine product should be used for all doses.

Additional reference: *Use of Serogroup B Meningococcal Vaccines in Persons Aged ≥10 Years at Increased Risk for Serogroup B Meningococcal Disease: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, 2015*

Plan Ahead for the Back to School Rush

As the busy back to school season approaches, please be sure to plan ahead by verifying that your site has a cushion of a 3 month supply of vaccine on hand. It is especially important that providers plan for Pentacel® distribution throughout the shortage. As a reminder, single dose vaccines are available as well as Pediarix®.

Please see the updated document titled Guidance for Children During the Pentacel® Manufacturer's Delay at

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vac-gen/shortages/default.htm>.

Free Immunization Action Coalition Workshop

The Georgia Immunization Program has partnered with the Immunization Action Coalition (IAC) to promote their Take a Stand™ program. This national program is designed to raise adult immunization rates through increased utilization of standing orders in medical practices. Take a Stand™ will train practices to implement new SOPs or improve SOPs that are currently in place. Experts in adult immunization will lead 4 hour interactive workshops in 20 locations across the country including Atlanta.

Renaissance Atlanta Waverly Hotel and Convention Center

April 15, 2016

10:00 am – 2:30 pm

Lunch included

IAC is offering this workshop at no-cost and eligible practices currently administering at least one adult vaccine will receive follow up implementation support for one year after the workshop!

Click on the following link for additional details and to register www.StandingOrders.org

GRITS ONLINE Registration - Please discard all GRITS Enrollment & Add Site Forms

GRITS has online registration for new organizations. If your organization has never registered for access to GRITS, the administrator of your organization can do so by clicking on the "Online Registration" link on the GRITS login page located at www.grits.state.us. Once you complete the form you will receive an email confirmation and your request will be routed to our Enrollment Coordinator for processing. This process can take between 3-5 business days depending on work volume. Please keep in mind when completing the online registration screens to enter your organization's "Site" information fields as well as the "organization" contact information fields. Completing the "Site" information fields will ensure there is no delay in creating your site to enable you to manage vaccines once your organization's registration is complete.

If your organization is already registered with GRITS and need to make any type of change, i.e. address, new administrator, name changes, etc. please **do not use the online registration** link. When changes are needed please contact our office FIRST by emailing us at dph-immreg@dph.ga.gov. Please DO NOT do not send in any old forms. The GRITS Enrollment Coordinator will be happy to assist you and provide you the proper form to complete your changes.

As a reminder, GRITS registration is completely separate from VFC enrollment. Follow the instructions above to register for GRITS or to add a site to an existing organization. You must contact the VFC program to enroll as a participating provider. Requests may be sent to DPH-gavfc@dph.ga.gov.