
Montana Immunization Program Newsletter

Issue Date: May 29, 2015



Use of MMRV

We have received several questions lately regarding the use of MMRV as the first dose in the vaccine series for the age group 12-47 months. CDC recommends using separate MMR and Varicella vaccine for the first dose. Here is information from the Immunization Action Coalition.

Use of MMRV (ProQuad, Merck)

http://www.immunize.org/askexperts/experts_combo.asp#MMRVar

Please review the specifics of the latest CDC recommendations for the use of the MMRV.

In 2010 CDC issued new recommendations for the use of combination MMRV vaccine. Prior to issuing these recommendations, ACIP reviewed results of post-licensure studies that suggest that, during the 5–12 day post-vaccination period, approximately one additional febrile seizure occurred among every 2,600 children ages 12 through 23 months vaccinated with a first dose of MMRV vaccine compared with children in the same age group vaccinated with separate first doses of MMR vaccine and varicella vaccine

administered during a single office visit.

The summary of the recommendations for use of MMRV vaccine are as follows:

- The routinely recommended ages for measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella vaccination continue to be age 12 through 15 months for the first dose and age 4 through 6 years for the second dose.
- For the first dose of measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella vaccines at age 12 through 47 months, providers may use either measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine and varicella vaccine or MMRV vaccine. Providers who are considering administering MMRV vaccine should discuss the benefits and risks of both vaccination options with the parents or caregivers. Unless the parent or caregiver expresses a preference for MMRV vaccine, CDC recommends that providers administer MMR vaccine and varicella vaccine for the first dose in this age group.
- For the second dose of measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella vaccines at any age (15 months through 12 years) and for the first dose at age 48 months and older, use of MMRV vaccine generally is preferred over separate injections of its equivalent component vaccines (i.e., MMR vaccine and varicella vaccine).
- A personal or family (i.e., sibling or parent) history of seizures of any etiology (i.e., cause) is a precaution for MMRV vaccination, and such children generally should be vaccinated with MMR vaccine and varicella vaccine.

The complete recommendations for the use of MMRV vaccine are available

on CDC's website at: www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr5903.pdf.

In addition, CDC revised the Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) for MMRV, which is available at www.immunize.org/vis and www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/mmr.html. As with all other VISs, it should be given to the parent or vaccine recipient prior to vaccination.

Questions? Contact Susan Reeser, Nurse Consultant at sreeser@mt.gov.



VFC Corner

Monthly VFC Hot Topics Webinars

When: The last Tuesday and Thursday of May and June, then every other month thereafter.

[Schedule and Access Information](#)

Month Topic

May VFC Eligibility Screening and Documenting [Link to Recording](#)

An annual refresher presentation on VFC eligibility screening requirements, acceptable means of documenting eligibility, and how to assess your current process for compliance. Target audience is new VFC providers, providers changing their screening process, providers converting to data feeds, or anyone wanting to ensure their screening process meets requirements.

June Bi-Annual Reports: Using this resource to improve your coverage rates

A review of how to use our bi-annual reports to improve immunization coverage rates, improve imMTrax data, and assist with quality improvement projects.

July No Hot Topics

All-Provider Email Recap

Summary of VFC information disseminated during the past month

- April 28, 2015 - Important Information: [HPV9 Available to order](#)
- May 15, 2015 - Important Information: Changes to VFC Communication
- May 15, 2015 - ACTION REQUIRED- Data Logger Battery Issue and New Recommended Setting

Please check your email for this important information. Contact the Immunization Program if you have questions. 444-5580 hhsiz@mt.gov

Shipping Labels for Returning Expired Vaccine

Shipping labels for returning vaccine to McKesson will now arrive by email at the same time you receive the print screen from Katie. Please print the label and print screen immediately and return vaccine as soon as possible. If you don't receive the shipping label email from McKesson Specialty Care Dist., please email kgrady@mt.gov or call 444-1613.

HPV9 and Medicaid Billing

There was a delay in adding HPV9 to the vaccines approved for Medicaid Billing. This has now been fixed. If you had a claim rejected, please submit again.

On the Horizon

2014-2015 VFC Influenza Vaccine Expiring

This year's influenza vaccine will be expiring on or before June 30, 2015. Please remove expired vaccine from your storage units and submit a wasted and expired form to start the process of returning it to McKesson. Opened, multi-dose vials cannot be returned but still must be listed on the form using reason "10-wasted." All other expired vaccine can be returned using reason "1-expired."

2015-2016 Influenza Vaccine Orders

Order forms for 2015-2016 influenza vaccine will go out mid-to-late July. Please begin thinking about your VFC influenza vaccine needs for the coming season.

Meningococcal Serogroup B Vaccines in the VFC Program

The two newly licensed Meningococcal serogroup B vaccines, Bexsero[®] and Trumenba[®], will be available in the VFC Program in June. The ACIP recommendation limits these vaccines to children ages 10-18 who are at increased risk for meningococcal disease attributable to serogroup B, including children with immune deficiencies and children at increased risk of a disease outbreak attributable to serogroup B. We anticipate a very low demand for these vaccines and will not have them on the regular order form, but will add them to the order form for Menhibrix[®].

The VFC Resolution adding these vaccines to the program is here.

(<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/vfc/downloads/resolutions/2015-02-1-mening.pdf>)

Please look for an all-provider email in June with more information on the ordering process. Contact us if you have an immediate need for these vaccines.

Questions? Contact Lori Hutchinson and Katie Grady-Selby at hhsiz@mt.gov.

Immunization Program Launches new AFIX Resource Webpage

The Montana Immunization Program is proud to announce the introduction of the [AFIX Resource Webpage](#).

AFIX is a continuous quality improvement process designed specifically for immunizations. The purpose is to assist clinics with improving their immunization coverage levels by highlighting clinics successes and opportunities for improvement.

The AFIX Resource page includes:

- General AFIX Information
- 2014 County Coverage Rates
- The AFIX Feedback Presentation
- 2015 AFIX Questionnaire



House Bill 158- Revise and Modernize Immunization Laws Related to School

The 2015 Montana Legislature revised school immunization requirements for school attendance through the passage of House Bill (HB) 158. The law, signed by the Governor and effective October 1, 2015, requires students attending school be vaccinated against varicella disease (chickenpox) and receive a booster of pertussis vaccine starting at 7th grade.

In order to implement these requirements, DPHHS will update the Administrative Rules of

- 2015 AFIX Award Recipients

Questions? Contact Carolyn Parry, CDC Public Health Advisor at cparry@mt.gov.

The screenshot shows the Montana Immunization Program website. At the top, there are navigation tabs for Children, Families, Seniors, Health, Medical, and Assistance. The main content area is titled 'Public Health & Safety' and 'Immunization Program'. It includes a 'How Do I...' section with links for finding records, finding records for children, finding State of Montana Certificates, signing up for the Immunization Information System (iMTrax), and reporting immunization activities. There are also 'Other Immunization Resources' listed. The AFIX process is detailed in four sections: A- Assessment, F- Feedback, I- Incentives, and X- Exchange. A diagram shows the AFIX process as a staircase with steps labeled Assessment, Feedback, Incentives, and Exchange.

Montana to provide specifics on vaccine requirement changes and will release draft rules for comment this summer. We anticipate modeling rules and requirements based upon the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice (ACIP) recommendations.

Additional formal correspondence should be released in the next couple of weeks outlining more of the details as they become available.

Questions? Contact the Immunization Program at (406) 444-5580 or hhsiz@mt.gov.

Varicella and imMTrax Client Comments: Updates and Instructions on Documenting Provider Diagnosis or Laboratory Evidence of Immunity

The Immunization Program's continuing efforts to improve the Client Comments section and to provide the most clear and well-defined comments for use in imMTrax have recently prompted the following changes:

- *Healthcare Provider Diagnosis of Varicella or Zoster* has replaced History of Chicken Pox/Varicella
- *Varicella: Laboratory Evidence of Immunity* has replaced Immunity: Varicella

Proper application of either comment will result in a recorded immunity for the Varicella Vaccine group.

Need to know how to add these comments to a client record? We've created a new document outlining the instructions, [click here](#).

NOTE: Use of the comment Healthcare Provider Diagnosis of Varicella or Zoster currently updates a field on the School Entry Report that is intended for documentation of disease. We are in the process of making several changes to the School Entry Report following passage of House Bill 158 and have included plans to update the form to reflect the same documentation for the Varicella: Laboratory Evidence of Immunity comment.

Questions? Contact the Immunization Program at (406) 444-5580 or hhsiz@mt.gov.

2015 Immunization Regional Workshops

The Montana Immunization Program has concluded the 2015 Immunization Regional Workshops. Thank you to everyone that could attend. We have posted all the 2015 presentations to our website at:

<http://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/Immunization/NewslettersPresentations.aspx>.

We look forward to seeing everyone next year!

State of Montana
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[Complete Staff Listing and Contact Information](#)

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