

Montana Immunization Program Newsletter

Issue Date: April 7, 2015



FAQS: Expiration Date and Multidose Vials

The Montana Immunization Program has received several inquiries regarding the expiration date of multidose vials. For clarification, here is information from the [Immunization Action Coalition Ask the Experts](#) website.

What are the CDC guidelines regarding use of multiple dose vaccine vials?

Vaccines in multidose vials that do not require reconstitution can be used through the expiration date printed on the label as long as the vaccine is not contaminated unless indicated otherwise by the manufacturer. For example, inactivated polio vaccine in a multidose vial can be used through the expiration date on the vial. For some vaccines, the manufacturer specifies that once the multidose vial has been entered or the rubber stopper punctured, the vaccine must be used within a certain number of days. This commonly referred to as the "beyond-use date" (BUD). Any vaccine not used within the BUD should be discarded. Specific information regarding the BUD can be found in the product information. For example, the package insert for

some inactivated influenza vaccine indicates once the stopper of the multidose vial has been pierced, the vial must be discarded within 28 days.

Package inserts for vaccines can be found at

www.immunize.org/packageinserts.

Help! I'm confused about how to correctly interpret expiration dates on vaccines.

The expiration date is the date by which they vaccine should be used.

Vaccines may be used up to and including this date unless otherwise specified in the manufacturer's product information. The expiration date is based on the assumption that the vaccine has been properly handled and that it has not become contaminated.

Some vaccines expire within a certain time after opening or after reconstitution. Multi-dose vials contain bacteriostatic agents that prevent the growth of bacteria and may be used until the expiration date printed on the vial unless they become contaminated. (One exception to this is that multi-dose vials of MPSV4 should be discarded if not used within 35 days after reconstitution, even if the expiration date printed on the vial by the manufacturer has not passed.) Single-dose vials and manufacturer-filled syringes do not contain bacteriostatic agents. Once the cap has been removed or the sterile seal has been broken on these vaccines, they should be administered. Lyophilized (freeze-dried) vaccine must be used within a specified time frame after it has been reconstituted. You may find IAC's educational piece titled [Vaccines with Diluents: How to Use Them](#) helpful.

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



VFC Corner

Monthly VFC Hot Topics Webinars

When: The last Tuesday and Thursday of every month

[Schedule and Access Information](#)

Month Topic

March VFC Site Visits [Link to archived presentation](#)

April Cancelled due to Regional Immunization Workshops

May VFC Eligibility Screening and Documenting

On the Horizon

HPV 9

HPV9 will be available in the VFC Program beginning May 1, 2015. Please watch your email for the official announcement with additional guidance.

Reminders

Wasted and Expired Vaccines

Please remember when returning wasted or expired VFC vaccine to:

1. Fill out a [Wasted and Expired Form](#) and send to the Montana Immunization Program
2. Wait for us to send a print screen listing the vaccines you are returning to McKesson
3. Verify the print screen matches exactly the vaccines in your package
4. When the shipping label arrives from McKesson, attach to the package and return to McKesson.

Vaccine Incident Report

Please use our online [Vaccine Incident Report](#) to report temperature excursions, send data logger data, and request data logger/storage unit support.

We recommend having all personnel involved in vaccine storage unit temperature monitoring bookmark this site for future reference.

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

CDC Updated Vaccine Recommendations

(MMWR Vol. 64 / No. 11)

[9-Valent Human Papillomavirus \(HPV\) Vaccine](#)

HPV9 will be available through the VFC Program in May. Please watch your email for guidance on ordering.

[Typhoid Vaccine](#)

Tip Sheet Available: Releasing imMTrax Client Records

Requests for release of immunization records from imMTrax occur year-round and for a number of reasons:

- Medical/Continuity of Care
- School and/or College Entry
- Employment Requirements
- Personal Records.

We want all our imMTrax users to be comfortable and confident in the process for releasing printed records from imMTrax. A new Tip Sheet has been posted on our DPHHS website and we encourage all users who have occasion to process release requests to review its contents.

[Releasing imMTrax Client Records Tip Sheet](#)

Questions? Contact Michelle Funchess at mfunchess@mt.gov.



2015 Legislative Session Update

DPHHS is proud to announce that passage of House Bill 158 (HB158) was successful and was signed into law March 27, 2015. The new law, which aims to modernize immunization requirements for schools, added varicella and the pertussis booster to the current school requirements.

House Bill 73 (HB73), which sought to revise IIS (imMTrax) consent requirements from opt-in to opt-out, was unfortunately tabled in committee and is not expected to move forward.

The 2015 Regional Workshops Season Has Begun!

Any attendees needing to make adjustments or cancel their reservation should contact the Immunization Program directly at (406) 444-5580.

Upcoming Dates:

Missoula April 14th Hilton Garden Inn Registration Closed

Butte April 15th Fairmont Hot Springs Registration Closed

Miles City April 29th Sleep Inn and Suites [Registration Closes 4/17/15](#)

Billings April 30th Crowne Plaza [Registration Closes 4/17/15](#)

Workshop agenda can be accessed on our website or via the following link: [Agenda](#)

Questions? Contact Stacey Evens at sevens@mt.gov.



Is your site planning something special? Tell us about it! Email mfuncness@mt.gov.

To learn more about NIW, [click here](#).

State of Montana
Immunization Program
Bekki Wehner, Section Supervisor
(406) 444-5580

[Complete Staff Listing and Contact Information](#)

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