

**PLEASE COPY THIS FOR ALL HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS
IN YOUR PRACTICE**

TO: All Users of State Supplied Vaccines

FROM: Mick Bolduc-VFC Coordinator

DATE: November 12, 2008

SUBJECT: Recording of Pentacel and Rotarix vaccine lot numbers

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has provided the following guidance concerning the recording of Pentacel and Rotarix vaccine lot numbers:

On October 3, 2008, a Notice to Readers was published in the MMWR that said: "Different lot numbers for the different components of DTaP-IPV/Hib are included on the DTaP-IPV vial and on the Hib powder vial. Providers should record lot numbers separately for the DTaP-IPV and Hib components."

Pentacel is supplied as a box containing 5 vials of liquid DTaP/IPV vaccine and 5 vials of lyophilized Hib vaccine. The vaccine component should be kept together in the original box until one vial of each component is removed, reconstituted, and administered. The combined vaccine must be used within 30 minutes of reconstitution. Pentacel should always be used as a combination vaccine. The liquid DTaP/IPV vaccine should be used only to reconstitute the lyophilized Hib component, and the combined vaccine administered to an individual child. The component vaccines should not be used separately.

The lot numbers of the Pentacel components are linked so that the lot number of one component will identify the lot number of the other component. If Pentacel is used as supplied there is no need to record both numbers - the carton lot number or tear-off lot number label on the hib vial (which are identical) is adequate and identifies all components. However, if the DTaP-IPV component is used to reconstitute a vial of ActHIB that is not supplied as Pentacel, both numbers should be recorded. Similarly, TriHIBit has a lot number for each of its two components, and there is no need to record both numbers when used as supplied.

Rotarix rotavirus vaccine (GlaxoSmithKline) is supplied in a carton containing 10 doses of lyophilized vaccine and 10 prefilled oral applicators of diluent. The outer carton, vaccine, and diluent each have different lot numbers which are linked. The lot number from either the outer carton, vaccine or diluent can be used by the manufacturer to identify the other components supplied in the same carton. The outer carton lot number is also listed on the packing slip. Only the outer carton lot number needs to be recorded.

As always if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (860) 509-7929.