

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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## Immunization Program

**TO:** Health Care Providers  
**FROM:** Mick Bolduc, Vaccine Coordinator  
Connecticut Vaccine Program  
**DATE:** November 15, 2012  
**SUBJECT:** Vaccine Update

The primary purpose of this communication is to provide an update to health care providers on the status of their November vaccine order as well as information about the December shipping schedule for both McKesson and Merck.

### **November Orders**

On November 5<sup>th</sup> the Connecticut Vaccine Program transitioned over to a new federally developed on-line vaccine ordering system called VTrckS. As such the Immunization Program was not able to begin processing this month's orders until November 5<sup>th</sup> resulting in a delay of several days for providers to receive their vaccine shipments. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused and believe this was a one-time occurrence. Any provider that submitted a vaccine order by November 5<sup>th</sup> and has not received their order by close of business November 16<sup>th</sup> should contact the Connecticut Vaccine Program to check on the status of their shipment.

### **December Shipping Schedule**

Enclosed is the December shipping schedule for both McKesson and Merck. Since both companies will only be shipping on a limited schedule from December 20<sup>th</sup> through the end of the year we recommend that providers have all orders submitted to the Connecticut Vaccine Program no later than December 10<sup>th</sup> in order to allow sufficient time for shipment of those orders. We recommend for providers who have sufficient storage capacity to err on the side of caution and order a little extra vaccine so they will not run short before placing and receiving their January order.

### **DTaP/IPV/Hib vaccine (Pentacel)®**

Just a reminder that the Connecticut Vaccine Program was notified in early October by the CDC and Sanofi Pasteur that the amount of Pentacel® vaccine has been significantly reduced and providers who order Pentacel® will only be receiving on average 5 doses per month. Providers will need to increase their orders accordingly for single antigen DTaP, IPV, and Hib vaccines as well as consider ordering GlaxoSmithKline's DTaP/IPV/Hep B combination vaccine (brand name Pediarix®) to ensure they have enough vaccine to fully immunize children based on the recommended schedule. There is sufficient supply of DTaP, IPV and Hib for all children to receive a complete series of all recommended vaccines.

If you have any questions, please contact the Connecticut Vaccine Program at (860) 509-7929.

## McKesson & MERCK (Direct ship) Holiday Vaccine Shipping Schedules

### December 2012 / January 2013

| Monday                   | Tuesday                                                 | Wednesday                                                             | Thursday                                                              | Friday                   |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 3                        | 4                                                       | 5                                                                     | 6                                                                     | 7                        |
| 10                       | 11                                                      | 12                                                                    | 13                                                                    | 14                       |
| 17                       | 18                                                      | 19                                                                    | 20<br><b>LIMITED SHIPPING</b><br>(Priority and Emergency Orders Only) | 21<br><b>NO SHIPPING</b> |
| 24<br><b>NO SHIPPING</b> | 25 FEDERAL HOLIDAY<br>(Christmas)<br><b>NO SHIPPING</b> | 26<br><b>LIMITED SHIPPING</b><br>(Priority and Emergency Orders Only) | 27<br><b>NO SHIPPING</b>                                              | 28<br><b>NO SHIPPING</b> |
| 31<br><b>NO SHIPPING</b> | 1 FEDERAL HOLIDAY<br>(New Year's)<br><b>NO SHIPPING</b> | 2                                                                     | 3                                                                     | 4                        |