

CVP Update



HPV 9 and Meningococcal Group B Vaccine Availability

HPV 9 & Meningococcal Group B Vaccines

Beginning June 1, 2015, providers can begin to order HPV 9 for VFC & SCHIP (HUSKY B) patients 9-18 years of age. HPV 9 will not be available from the CVP for privately insured patients. Providers are expected to use up their current inventory of HPV 4 before beginning to order HPV 9. Also beginning June 1, 2015, providers can begin to order both newly licensed meningococcal serogroup B vaccines (Trumenba & Bexsero) for high-risk VFC & SCHIP patients 10-18 years of age. These vaccines will not be available from the CVP for privately insured patients and can only be used for patients that fall into high-risk categories (persons with persistent complement component deficiencies, anatomic or functional asplenia, microbiologists who are routinely exposed to *Neisseria meningitidis*, and those considered at risk due to an outbreak. The risk groups do NOT currently include college freshman living in dorms or otherwise, travelers or military recruits. Updated Vaccine Order Forms (VOF) as well as an updated vaccine return form will be sent to providers in May.

Vaccine Freeze Study Pilot Program

Vaccine Freeze Study

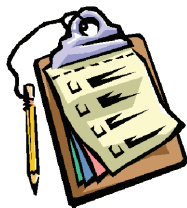
In the fall of 2011, 27 providers enrolled in the CVP participated in a vaccine study to determine whether visual indicators on the outside of vaccine boxes would assist health care providers in identifying vaccines that may have been exposed to temperatures outside of the recommended storage range (35-46 degrees Fahrenheit). Over a 6 month period, all 27 sites triggered visual freeze indicator events. A total of 66 events occurred in all types of refrigerators used. The study concluded that visual freeze indicators are useful in the early identification of vaccine freeze events. Consideration should be given to including visual vaccine indicators as a part of a temperature monitoring system for vaccines. An abstract of the study is available in the March 3, 2015 issue of Infectious Diseases in Clinical Practice: http://journals.lww.com/INFECTDIS/ABSTRACT/PUBLISHAHEAD/VISUAL_INDICATORS_ON_VACCINE_BOXES_AS_EARLY.99324.ASPX

Summer is near! Time to check & update your emergency back-up plan

Emergency Preparedness Checklist

After a long winter that never seemed to end, summer and the threat of severe weather and power outages are right around the corner. Now is the perfect time for all providers to take a few moments to review their storage and handling practices with all relevant staff. Each practice should have a back-up protocol for vaccine recovery. Providers should take all steps necessary to safeguard the viability of their vaccine before severe weather hits. Such steps include having a back-up generator on site in case power is lost, or making arrangements with a facility that has a back-up generator (local hospital, pharmacy, fire station, another practice, private residence etc.) to temporarily store vaccine. Make sure your continuously recording thermometer is working correctly and has paper to record the temperature in the unit. If you do have a power outage and do not have a back-up generator, do not assume the vaccine is no longer viable. Instead, record the date, time and temperature and contact the Immunization Program so that we can work with you to determine if the vaccine is still good to use. Remember, do not discard or administer affected vaccines until you have discussed the viability of such vaccine with the Immunization Program. Vaccines are expensive and we appreciate you and your staff taking the necessary time to safeguard all vaccines in your possession to minimize any loss.

Summer is also the time for office vacations. Be please sure to notify the CVP if your office will be closed any times other than what is listed on your provider profile. Notifying the CVP beforehand will eliminate the possibility of vaccine orders being shipped to your office and potentially spoiling. Failure to notify the CVP of an office closing could result in the provider being financially responsible for any wasted doses of vaccine.



The CVP has educational materials for your office

The CVP has a host of educational materials available free of charge for your office. All materials can be ordered on line at the following link:

http://www.ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/infectious_diseases/immunization/educational_materials_order_form-ef.pdf