



P R O V I D E R B U L L E T I N

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To: All Indiana Health Coverage Programs Providers

Subject: Vaccine for Children Update

Overview

The purpose of this bulletin is to outline information regarding three changes taking place in the Vaccine for Children (VFC) Program. The changes include the following:

- Transfer of VFC ordering, distribution, and accountability from the Indiana State Medical Association (ISMA) to the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) beginning January 1, 2000
- Addition of Hoosier Healthwise Package C to the VFC delivery system
- Update of reporting forms to include a column to indicate the number of vaccines given to children enrolled in Hoosier Healthwise Package C

The information is summarized by vaccine storage, reports and forms, claims submission, and third party liability (TPL).

VFC Program

The VFC Program will be transferred from the ISMA to the ISDH, Indiana Immunization Program, effective January 1, 2000. All vaccine ordering, distribution, and accountability processes will remain unchanged, however, they will be administered through the ISDH, Indiana Immunization Program beginning on January 1, 2000.

The VFC Program is for uninsured children and Hoosier Healthwise Package C is an insurance program. However, the Office of Medicaid Policy and Planning (OMPP), the Children's Health Insurance Program, and ISDH have worked together to open the VFC Program to

children in all of the Hoosier Healthwise benefit packages, including Hoosier Healthwise Package C.

The impact of these changes on the VFC Program is minimal. As always, the Indiana Health Coverage Programs appreciate your efforts to immunize Indiana's children.

Vaccine Storage

Providers are **not** required to physically separate vaccine stock for VFC children from vaccine stock for Hoosier Healthwise Package C children. No additional storage rules are necessary.

Forms and Reports

The following forms have been revised as of January 1, 2000.

- Vaccine Order Form
- Patient Eligibility Screening Record
- Vaccine Accountability Tally Sheet

Providers will continue to use the same Vaccine Order Form to order vaccines. Because vaccines are provided by different funding sources, ISDH will need to separately report the number of vaccine doses administered to VFC children and children enrolled in Hoosier Healthwise Package C. Therefore, the Patient Eligibility Screening Record and the Vaccine Accountability Tally Sheet have been revised to incorporate vaccines administered to children enrolled in Hoosier Healthwise Package C.

The Patient Eligibility Screening Record, which many providers use to screen patients for VFC eligibility, has been revised to include a box to enter Hoosier Healthwise Package C eligible children. As with the VFC Program, providers may use this form for screening or may incorporate it into existing clinic forms.

An additional column has been added to the Vaccine Accountability Tally Sheet for reporting vaccines administered to children enrolled in Hoosier Healthwise Package C. This allows for accurate accounting and tracking of the amount of vaccine used for children in each group. Providers must check the appropriate column on the Patient Eligibility Screening Record and the Vaccine Accountability Tally Sheet. Providers no longer need to submit the Vaccine Accountability Tally Sheet when ordering vaccines. Instead, the form should be submitted to the Immunization Program on a monthly basis, by the 10th of the

month following the month when vaccines were administered. This change will standardize the reporting time frame for all providers.

The new address, phone numbers, and fax number for the VFC Program are as follows:

Indiana Immunization Program
Indiana State Department of Health
2 North Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: (317) 233-7704 or 1-800-701-0704
Fax: (317) 233-3719

Claim Submission

Providers should continue to submit claims to the appropriate contractor as determined by the delivery system indicated when eligibility is verified. For example, if a child is assigned to a primary medical provider (PMP) within the risk-based managed care (RBMC) network, claims must be submitted to the appropriate managed care organization (MCO). If the child is assigned to a PMP in the primary care case management (PrimeStep) network, claims must be submitted to EDS.

Third Party Liability

Immunizations administered to VFC-eligible children can be billed directly to the appropriate delivery system (EDS or the MCO) when primary diagnosis is V20.2. These do not need to be billed to the primary insurance company. Providers should not experience TPL issues with the children enrolled in Hoosier Healthwise Package C. If information is obtained identifying a primary insurance for children enrolled in Hoosier Healthwise Package C, please contact EDS TPL at (317) 488-5046 in the Indianapolis local area or 1-800-457-4510.

Additional Information

Questions or concerns can be addressed to the telephone numbers listed in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1 – Contact Numbers for More Information

Subject	Contact	Telephone
VFC Program information and the addition of Hoosier Healthwise Package C	Thomas Hicks, VFC Program coordinator	(317) 233-7435 in the Indianapolis local area or 1-800-701-0704
Vaccine orders	Bradley Barron	(317) 233-7704 in the Indianapolis local area or 1-800-701-0704
Hoosier Healthwise Package C	EDS Customer Assistance	(317)-655-3240 in the Indianapolis local area or 1-800-577-1278
	Children's Health Insurance Program	(317) 233-8800