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STATE OF IOWA DEPARTMENT OF

**Health** AND **Human**

SERVICES

# Iowa's Vaccines for Children Program

**February 7, 2023**

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# Presentation Outline

- Influenza Vaccine
  - 2023-24 Distribution
  - 2024-25 VFC Influenza Vaccine Pre-book
- RSV Season Updates
- Programmatic Updates & Reminders
- Tips & Tricks to Avoid Common VFC Program Noncompliance Issues
- Q&A - Ask Your Questions!

# Influenza Vaccine – 2023-24 Distribution

Additional influenza vaccines available

# 2023-24 VFC Influenza Vaccine Shipping

- Iowa VFC Program has extra influenza vaccines available to ship to providers for VFC eligible children
  - FluLaval quad, preservative free, 0.5mL single dose syringe, 10-pack
  - FluMist quad, intranasal administration, for children 2+ years of age, 10-pack
  - Fluzone-Quad, 5 mL, multidose vials, 10-pack
- Contact [iowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:iowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov) to request additional 2023-24 influenza vaccine

# 2024-25 VFC Influenza Vaccine Pre-book

- Thank you for completing the 2024-25 influenza vaccine pre-book!
- Viewing previous Flu Pre-book in IRIS:
  - To review what products and quantities were pre-booked for the organization, go to the 'flu pre-book' menu in IRIS
  - Select the Flu Pre-book Window, 2024-2025 VFC Flu Season
  - Pre-booked products and quantities will display

# RSV Vaccines & Products

Challenges with Nirsevimab Shortage & New Maternal RSV Vaccine

# Nirsevimab Availability through the VFC Program

- Thank you for your patience during this new product roll out
- Iowa VFC Program received the last allocation of Beyfortus for the season
  - As of 2/7/2024: 100 and 50 mg doses of Beyfortus are still available to order
- **Recent COCA Guidance:** [Updated Guidance for Healthcare Providers on Increased Supply of Nirsevimab to Protect Young Children from Severe Respiratory Syncytial Virus \(RSV\) during the 2023–2024 Respiratory Virus Season](#)

# Abrysvo (Pfizer) Vaccine for Pregnant People

- Abrysvo vaccine is available through the VFC Program for administration to VFC eligible pregnant women to protect infants from RSV
  - **VFC eligibility criteria still apply**
- Recommendations:
  - American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, CDC, and the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine recommend prenatal vaccination from September 2023 through January 31, 2024 of all pregnant women between 32 weeks and 36 weeks and 6 days of gestation with a single dose of RSV vaccine (Abrysvo, Pfizer).
  - RSV vaccine can be co-administered with other recommended vaccines, including Tdap, COVID-19 and influenza vaccines.

# Programmatic Updates & Reminders

# Amerigroup is Now Wellpoint



- Pediatric patients with Wellpoint Medicaid are VFC-eligible
- Members will receive a new member ID card with the Wellpoint logo, but the Member ID will not change
- Provider Services phone number is now 833-731-2143
- New website:  
<https://www.provider.wellpoint.com/iowa-provider/home>

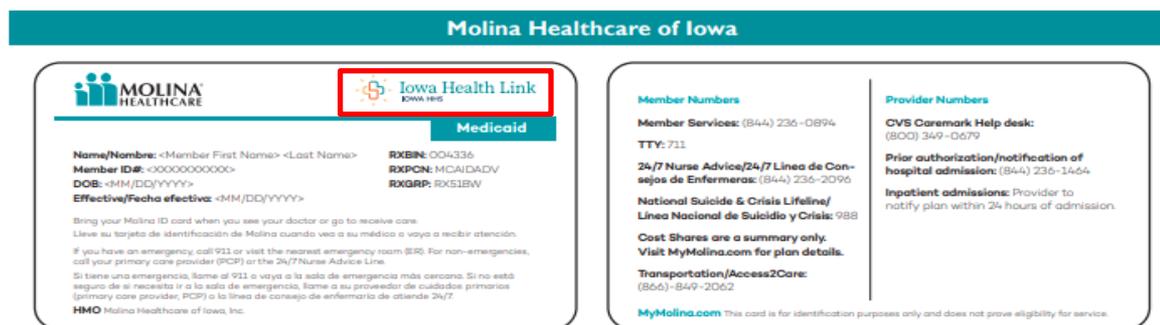
## Sample ID card:



[Learn More: Frequently Asked Questions-Medicaid](#)

# Molina Healthcare of Iowa – new MCO

- Molina Healthcare is a new Medicaid MCO. These pediatric patients are VFC eligible – Medicaid



[Comm. 486, Managed Care Member ID Cards \(iowa.gov\)](#)  
[Molina Medicaid Quick Start Guide](#)  
[Molina Marketplace Provider Orientation](#)

- Iowa Total Care – no changes

# VFC Provider Survey - Due February 16, 2024

- CDC requires VFC Programs to survey VFC Providers
- All responses are confidential and will not affect your ability to participate in the VFC Program
- Results will be used to improve the Iowa VFC Program
- **Action item:** Complete the survey by Friday, February 16, 2024:  
<https://www.cognitoforms.com/IowaDepartmentOfPublicHealth/IowaVFCProviderSatisfactionSurvey>

# 2024 VFC Webinar Series

- Remaining webinars on May 1, July 24, and November 20 from 12:00-1:00 p.m.
- Attendance is not required, but highly recommended, even for experienced VFC Program Providers.
- Register today at [https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_VE38jdbKQje2sr87WygqgFg](https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_VE38jdbKQje2sr87WygqgFg)

# VFC & 2023-24 COVID-19 Vaccine Return

- VFC Providers are **expected** to return **all spoiled and expired VFC vaccines, including 2023-24 COVID-19 vaccines**, as soon as possible within the first 30 days but not to exceed six months after expiration date
  - Single dose syringes, unopened single dose vials, and only full, unopened multi-dose vials to McKesson
  - Products in open boxes can be returned, however opened multi-dose vials cannot be returned
- Nonviable Vaccine Return Instructions: IRIS contains functionality to manage nonviable vaccine returns, including notifications prompting providers to return nonviable VFC vaccines to McKesson.
- Avoid excessive expired and wasted vaccines by ordering minimum quantity

# New VFC Webpage links

- Iowa HHS Immunization Program: <https://hhs.iowa.gov/public-health/immunization>
- VFC Program: <https://hhs.iowa.gov/public-health/immunization/vaccines-children-program>
- Iowa HHS Immunization Materials: [Online order form](#)
- Iowa Public Health Tracking Portal - Immunization Data: <https://hhs.iowa.gov/iowa-public-health-tracking-portal/health/immunization>

# Tips & Tricks to Avoid Common VFC Program Noncompliance Issues

How to ace your next site visit!

# VFC Non-Compliance Issues

- Maintain VFC Documents
- Update S&H Plan Annually
- Monitoring Ultra Cold Storage Units
- Borrowing
- Staffing & Clinic Status Changes Must Be Reported

# Maintaining VFC Documents:

## **Requirement:**

- Maintain all records related to the VFC Program for a minimum of three years
- VFC records includes, not limited to: VFC screening and eligibility documentation, billing records, medical records verifying receipt of vaccine, vaccine ordering records, vaccine purchase and accountability records (shipping invoices/packing slips), and paper temperature logs or electronic data
- Digital or electronic storage of records is allowable

## **Action Step:**

- Maintain all VFC documents for minimum of 3 years

# VFC Storage & Handling Plan

**Requirement:** Vaccine S&H Plan must be reviewed and updated at least annually

- Updated changes in standard operating procedures
  - Whenever S&H recommendations of vaccines are updated
  - New vaccines are added to inventory
- Update when change in staff that has responsibilities specified in the plan
- Update review date on document

**Action Step:** Review clinic S&H Plan today with all immunization staff

# S&H Per Unit: Temperature Documentation

## Requirement:

- Storage unit(s) current temperatures are checked and recorded on a temperature log twice daily (at the start and end of the workday) along with staff initials and time of readings
- Storage unit(s) minimum and maximum temperatures are checked and recorded on a temperature log at the start of each work day along with staff initials and time of reading

## Action Step:

- Designated staff must check and record temperatures **twice** daily (at the beginning and end of each day) and min/max at start of day
- Ensure recordings capture staff initials/name and time of reading

# S&H Per Unit: Temperature Documentation

## Requirement:

- Storage temperature logs are maintained for at least 3 years for each unit either in electronic or paper format
- The designated person reviews temperature logs at least weekly to ensure proper temperature recording and takes action if out of range temperatures are found on the logs during review
- The data logger is downloaded and reviewed at least every two weeks and whenever the data logger alarms

# Ultra-cold Freezer Temperature Logs

- Ultra-cold freezers are not required for the VFC Program; however, providers may use them for long-term storage of certain COVID-19 vaccines.
- Ultra-cold freezers should maintain temperatures between -130° F and -76° F or -90° C and -60° C.
- VFC Providers with ultra-cold storage units are required to monitor temperatures in accordance with the [Iowa VFC Operations Guide](#).
- Ultra-cold freezer temperature logs are available to download and print from the [Vaccine Storage and Handling website](#):
  - [Temperature Log - Fahrenheit - Ultra Cold](#)
  - [Temperature Log - Celsius - Ultra Cold](#)

# Ordering Replacement DDLs

- Immunization Program has Log Tag 400s available to VFC Providers at no cost
- Send email request to [iowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:iowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov)

# Documentation: Borrowing Reasons

- **Requirement:**

- Occurs when VFC vaccine is administered to a private-pay patient, or private vaccine is administered to a VFC-eligible patient.
- **VACCINE BORROWING SHOULD NOT ROUTINELY OCCUR**

## When it is **OK** to borrow:

- Borrowing short-dated vaccine to prevent vaccine expiration
- Vaccine delivery delays
- Vaccine damaged in transit

## When it is **NOT OK** to borrow:

- If borrowing from VFC stock would result in vaccine not being available for VFC patients
- Routine borrowing for any reason
- Repeated human error
- Running out of stock between orders

# Documentation: Borrowing Reasons

- **Action Step:**

- Staff training is essential to avoid accidental use of the wrong vaccine inventory. Annually, all clinic staff must be trained on the following:
  - Proper VFC patient eligibility screening and documentation
  - Administering the appropriate vaccine inventory to patient per eligibility screening process
  - Clinic procedures for vaccine inventory management
- VFC providers should use the Vaccine Management and Borrowing Tool for training guidance and documentation

# Reporting Changes to Key Staff

**Requirement:** All changes in key staff must be communicated to Iowa Immunization Program

- IRIS Admin users can update Edit Organization Page
  - Primary, back-up, and vaccine delivery contacts
- Primary & Back-up vaccine coordinators required to complete two You Call the Shots Modules
  - Vaccines For Children (VFC)
  - Vaccine Storage and Handling

**Action Step:** Review contacts in IRIS Edit Organization page and communicate change in Medical Director to Iowa VFC Program at [iowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:iowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov)

# Clinic Status Changes Must Be Reported

## Clinic Status Reporting Requirement:

- VFC providers must communicate clinic status changes to the Iowa VFC Program, including, but not limited to:
  - Permanent closures
  - Temporary closures
  - Moving locations
  - Anything that would affect delivery, storage or monitoring VFC vaccine
  
- Send email to [iowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:iowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov)

# VFC Program Resources

- [Iowa HHS VFC Program](#)
- [Immunization Materials Order Form](#): Includes Temp Logs
- [2024 VFC Provider List](#)
- [VFC Operations Guide](#)
  - [MCO/IA Health Link Member ID Cards](#)
  - [MCO/hawk-I Member ID Cards](#)
  - [VFC Eligibility and Insurance Situations - Quick View](#)
- [Vaccines for Children Program \(CDC\)](#)

# Questions?



- Email: [iowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:iowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov)
- Phone: 1-800-831-6293
- Fax: 1-800-831-6292

Website: <https://hhs.iowa.gov/public-health/immunization/vaccines-children-program>