

Public Health

IOWA HHS

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Date: January 18, 2023

To: Iowa Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program Providers

From: Iowa VFC Program

Re: Vaccine Update: PRIORIX (MMR Vaccine)

Effective January 18, 2023, the Iowa VFC Program will allow providers to begin ordering PRIORIX (MMR) vaccine.

PRIORIX vaccine is approved for use in active immunization against measles, mumps, and rubella for ages 12 months and older. PRIORIX (MMR) vaccine is an available option, in addition to M-M-R II vaccine for active immunization in preventing measles, mumps and rubella. VFC Providers are not required to switch to PRIORIX and can continue to order and use M-M-R-II vaccine.

A detailed PRIORIX (MMR) vaccine summary is available [here](#) and includes information on use, dosage, schedule, and contraindications.

Storage and Handling: PRIORIX must be stored in the refrigerator at 36.0° F -46.0° F (2.0° C - 8.0° C) and CANNOT be stored in the freezer. Storage of PRIORIX in the freezer for any length of time is considered a temperature excursion and needs to be reported to the Iowa VFC Program. Please ensure all immunization staff are aware that the PRIORIX vaccine should be stored in the refrigerator.

VFC Ordering: When placing an order for MMR vaccine, please review the clinic's vaccine inventory to identify all other vaccines needed. VFC providers should continue to use existing M-M-R II stock prior to ordering PRIORIX vaccine to avoid stockpiling and wasting MMR vaccine. **VFC providers should continue to place vaccine orders consistent with their economic order quantity (monthly, bimonthly or quarterly) and monitor existing inventory to ensure VFC vaccine is not wasted or allowed to expire.**

Updated VFC Available Vaccines and Covered Age Ranges documents are available on the [Immunization Program Website](#).

If you have questions regarding recommendations for use of MMR vaccine, contact Shelly Jensen at 1-800-831-6293 ext. 2. For questions regarding vaccine orders contact the VFC Program at 1-800-831-6293 ext. 6.