



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Department of Human Services

Public Health Division
Office of Family Health
800 NE Oregon Street
Portland, OR 97232-2162

Voice (971) 973-0300

FAX (971) 673-0278

TTY (971) 673-0372

Date: January 20, 2009
To: All VFC Providers
From: Public Health Immunization Program
Lorraine Duncan, Manager
Paul Cieslak, MD, Medical Director
Mimi Luther, Vaccine Manager
Re: Hib Vaccine – Update



As you know from our communications last week, the Oregon VFC Program can no longer acquire enough single antigen Hib vaccine to fulfill provider needs.

We urge all Oregon providers to begin using Pentacel® (DTaP, Hib, IPV) vaccine in order to assure that all young children complete the primary series' protection from Haemophilus influenzae type b disease.

Prior to today, providers were limited by our office to either Pediarix® or Pentacel®, due to our experience with vaccine waste during previous introductions of new products. We have removed this restriction; providers are now welcome to use both products.

Important Facts:

- ★ VFC eligible children are entitled by Federal law to all routinely recommended vaccines.
- ★ The full primary series is absolutely essential to successfully protect infants.
- ★ Continue to defer Hib booster dose in all but high-risk children.
- ★ Providers will be billed for any vaccines that are wasted or expire. If you are not already meeting the federal requirements regarding inventory management, please implement immediately. Our storage and handling guide can be found here:
 - <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/ph/imm/docs/SOP11-1.pdf>
- ★ Information about Hib disease in Oregon from 2006 and prior can be found here:
 - <http://oregon.gov/DHS/ph/acd/diseases/hflu/hflu06.pdf>
- ★ Updates to this and other VFC issues can be received most quickly by subscribing to the Oregon VFC notification service. Please send your email address to Lydia.m.luther@state.or.us to be subscribed.
- ★ We are working on materials to help you manage the use of different vaccines during this Hib vaccine shortage.

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