



Memorandum

TO: Directors, Health Service Regions
Immunization Program Managers, Health Service Regions
Directors, Local Health Departments
Immunization Program Managers, Local Health Departments

FROM: Karen Hess, Manager
Vaccine Services Group 

THRU: Jack Sims, Manager
Immunization Branch 

DATE: February 17, 2012

SUBJECT: Texas Vaccines for Children Program: Influenza Orders for 2012-2013

Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) Program providers may begin placing orders for the 2012-2013 influenza season on February 17, 2012. Providers will again use an online process to place orders. The deadline for placing an order is **March 9, 2012**. Please keep in mind that the order you place now is your actual influenza order that will be delivered starting in the fall of 2012.

TVFC enrolled primary care providers should offer all ACIP-recommended vaccines for the populations they serve, including influenza. Offering annual flu vaccines ensures patients' protection against the disease and supports and maintains the ongoing relationship between the patient and medical home. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends annual flu vaccination for all individuals six months of age and up. Please visit the CDC web page designed for professionals at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/index.htm> for complete recommendations and other vaccine information.

Providers may request preferred influenza product brands and formulations. These requests will be honored to the extent possible. Choice is limited to products and funding allocated to TVFC by the CDC. Orders may be filled in their entirety or in partial shipments as vaccines become available next fall.

2012-2013 Electronic Influenza Order Process:

Prior to **March 9, 2012:**

Log on to the Influenza Order Website at: <http://TVFCflu.questionpro.com>

1. Choose your region from the drop down list. Note: Your region is the first two numbers of your TVFC Provider Identification Number (PIN). City of Houston is listed as COH 25. If you do not know your TVFC PIN, please contact your Local Health Department (LHD) or Health Service Region (HSR) TVFC representative.
2. When the second drop down list appears, select your clinic and PIN. If you do not see your PIN in the list, select "Do not see my PIN" from the top and then enter your 6-digit TVFC PIN in the blank provided, using the leading 0 (zero) if applicable.
3. Enter contact information as indicated.
4. Influenza vaccines are listed by applicable age categories. Enter the number of doses of each influenza product you would like to order. This order should be based on reliable information such as client numbers, the number of doses administered in previous seasons, next year's influenza clinic plans, etc.
5. Enter number of doses in increments of ten (10). Do not enter number of vials.
6. The light bulb symbol next to a vaccine type will provide additional information relating to that specific vaccine.
7. Enter the full name of the person completing the form. It must be a person listed on the clinic's enrollment form, but does not have to be the actual enrolled signing provider.
8. Read the authorizing section and click on the "I agree" buttons if you agree.
9. To submit your order request for the 2012-13 influenza season, click on the "Submit Order Form" button at the bottom of the order. A confirmation page will appear; please print for your records.

Note: If you need to change your order after it has been submitted, you must start over and enter an entirely new order. Your latest dated order submission will be considered as your final order.

The deadline to submit an order is **March 9, 2012**. Orders received later than this date may not be filled with product choice or doses requested. Ordering will be opened again after this date for providers who missed this deadline or who want to order additional vaccine. Orders placed after March 9th will be filled after the first round of orders, and will depend upon available vaccine.

Online submission of influenza orders is preferred; however, if a provider site does not have access to the web to place the order, a physical order form may be used. Please contact the LHD or HSR where you submit your routine TVFC orders to obtain a physical form.

The 2012-13 Influenza Vaccine Information Statements (VIS) will be available for order in late summer or early fall of 2012. By federal law, an appropriate VIS must be given to all patients, or their parent or legal representative when receiving an influenza vaccine. VIS forms will not

be included with influenza vaccines. VIS forms must be ordered by providers early enough to ensure they are available prior to receiving influenza vaccine. To order Influenza VIS forms free of charge, please visit www.immunizetexas.com. VIS forms may be obtained by clicking on the Reference Center on the left side of the page, click the link for "Literature & Forms." If you have questions or concerns regarding ordering immunization literature or forms, please call 1-(800)-252-9152.

TVFC-supplied influenza vaccine is reserved for children 6 months to 18 years of age as follows:

TVFC Children Eligible for Trivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (TIV)

- All children aged 6 months through 18 years.

TVFC Children Eligible for Live, Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV)

- All healthy children and adolescents (those who do not have an underlying medical condition that predisposes them to flu complications) aged 2 years through 18 years.

As the duration of the influenza season varies and influenza disease might not appear in certain communities until February or March, influenza vaccination efforts should continue throughout the season.

If you need additional vaccine for the current season, or have questions regarding the ordering process for 2012-13 influenza vaccine, please contact your LHD or HSR representative.