



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

JOHN HELLERSTEDT, M.D.
COMMISSIONER

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August 5, 2016

Dear Texas Vaccines for Children Provider,

Beginning Monday, August 15, 2016, Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) providers may update vaccine choices through the Electronic Vaccine Inventory (EVI) system in preparation for September orders. The "Update Choice" tab will be open from **August 15th through August 26th**. If you do not wish to make any changes to your current vaccine choices, you do not need to do anything.

The next opportunity to update your vaccine selections will be in November 2016.

A training entitled "Updating Vaccine Choice" is available for you to review and can be accessed at <http://www.upp.com/vacchoice/index.html>. A printable desk reference is also available in the "Provider Resources & Training" section on the TVFC webpage under the EVI heading at <http://www.dshs.texas.gov/immunize/tvfc/ProviderResources.shtm>.

Please note, the Merck pediatric and adult vaccine for Hepatitis A, Vaqta[®], and Hepatitis B, Recombivax HB[®], in single dose prefilled syringe are unavailable until further notice. The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) will be substituting both formulations with GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals (GSK) vaccines in single dose prefilled syringes. The Merck Hepatitis A vaccine, Vaqta[®], will be substituted by the GSK vaccine, Havrix[®], in the single dose prefilled syringe. The Merck Hepatitis B vaccine, Recombivax HB[®], will be substituted with the GSK vaccine, Energix-B[®], in the single dose prefilled syringe. Should you prefer to order the pediatric and adult Merck vaccines, they remain available in the single dose vial as a choice in the Electronic Inventory System (EVI). Please be sure to update your Choice selection to reflect your preference.

On January 14, 2016, GSK received approval from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to expand use of Hiberix[®] for a 3-dose pediatric vaccination series at ages 2, 4, and 6 months. Hiberix[®] was first licensed in the United States in August 2009 for use as a booster dose in children aged 15 months through 4 years under the Accelerated Approval Regulations, in response to a *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) vaccine shortage that lasted from December 2007 to July 2009. Hiberix[®] is now available as a vaccine choice in the Electronic Inventory System (EVI) for TVFC providers to select as a preference. If you prefer to order Hiberix[®] instead of ActHib[®], please be sure to update your Choice selection accordingly. Hiberix[®] will become available for ordering in September 2016.

Thank you for your continued support of the TVFC Program. If you have any questions, please contact the appropriate Health Service Region listed below.

An Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider

PINS Beginning With	Health Service Region	Phone Number
1	HSR 1	806-783-6412
2	HSR 2	325-795-5660
3	HSR 3	817-264-4790
04 or 05 not in Hardin, Jefferson or Orange Counties	HSR 4/5N	903-533-5310
05 in Hardin, Jefferson or Orange Counties, 06 or 25	HSR 6/5S	713-767-3410
7	HSR 7	254-778-6744
08 or 00	HSR 8	210-949-2067
9	HSR 9	432-571-4137
10	HSR 10	915-834-7924
11	HSR 11	956-421-5552

Sincerely,



Barbara Vassell
Manager, Vaccine Operations Group
Immunization Unit