



April 19, 2017

**Re: Eligibility of Patients with Primary Private Insurance and Secondary Medicaid Coverage for the Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) Program**

Dear TVFC Provider,

**Summary**

During the 2017 TVFC Annual Training and within the 2017 TVFC Provider Manual, guidance was shared regarding the use of Medicaid as secondary insurance if a patient is privately insured as well. Providers were asked to first bill the private insurance and only use the TVFC vaccines if the claim was denied. Since then, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) has updated their policy and has asked that programs revert to the 2016 VFC guidance of using Medicaid as primary insurance for the purpose of determining TVFC eligibility. The 2017 TVFC Provider Manual will be updated to reflect this policy change.

**Details**

The 2016 VFC guidance from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) regarding patients with primary private insurance and secondary Medicaid coverage will remain the same until further notice.

Situations occur where children may have private health insurance and Medicaid as secondary insurance. These children will be TVFC-eligible as long as they are enrolled in Medicaid. However, the parent is not required to participate in the TVFC program. There are options for the parent and provider. These options are:

- A provider can administer TVFC vaccine to these children and bill Medicaid for the administration fee, or
- A provider can administer private stock vaccine and bill the primary insurance carrier for both the cost of the vaccine and the administration fee. In the rare event that the primary insurer denies payment of the vaccine and the administration fee, you may replace the private stock vaccine with TVFC vaccine and bill Medicaid for the administration fee. This must be documented on a DSHS borrowing form (EF11-14171), available at <http://dshs.texas.gov/immunize/tvfc/publications.aspx>, and submitted to your responsible entity (Health Service Region or Local Health Department) within 24 hours of occurrence.

If a child is covered by a high-deductible insurance plan that requires the parent to



pay out-of-pocket for vaccines until the deductible has been reached AND the child has Medicaid as secondary insurance, the child should be considered TVFC-eligible if the family has not reached its deductible. TVFC vaccine should be administered, and the administration fee billed to Medicaid, until the deductible is reached.

Chapter 2, Section I, C (page 16) of the TVFC Provider Manual (available at <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/immunize/tvfc/publications.aspx>) will be updated with this information.

Thank you for your continued support of the TVFC Program. If you have any questions, please contact the appropriate TVFC Contact.

<b>PINS Beginning With</b>	<b>TVFC Contact</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
00	City of San Antonio	210-207-3965
01	HSR 1	806-783-6412
02	HSR 2	325-795-5660
03	HSR 3	817-264-4790
04 or 05 <u>not</u> in Hardin, Jefferson or Orange Counties	HSR 4/5N	903-533-5310
05 in Hardin, Jefferson or Orange Counties, 06	HSR 6/5S	713-767-3410
07	HSR 7	254-778-6744
08	HSR 8	210-949-2067
09	HSR 9	432-571-4137
10	HSR 10	915-834-7924
11	HSR 11	956-421-5552
25	City of Houston	832-393-5188

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy Ejuma".

Nancy Ejuma  
Immunization Unit Director