

VACCINES FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM NEWS BULLETIN

Chicago Department of Public Health – Immunization Program

Issue Number 18: Aug 1, 2019

The news bulletin serves to keep you aware of emerging VFC program, vaccine and vaccine-preventable disease updates.

In This Issue:

- Update: Changes to the Children’s Health Insurance Program Vaccine Distribution

Vaccine for CHIP-insured patients will be available beginning September 1st, 2019 .

We will work with you to facilitate a smooth transition and ensure you receive vaccine inventory for the populations you serve.

Update: Changes to the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Vaccine Distribution

On July 1st, 2019, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) announced an upcoming change to the purchasing and distribution of vaccine for children with Children’s Health Insurance Plan coverage.

Beginning **September 1**, the Chicago VFC program will factor CHIP patient populations into vaccine orders placed in I-CARE and start distributing vaccine for CHIP patients.

Steps to take now:

- 1) Email chicagovfc@cityofchicago.org to indicate whether or not you would like to receive CHIP vaccine once the new distribution method is in place and to update your CHIP patient population numbers. If you previously completed the Smartsheet survey or have been in contact with Chicago VFC you do not need to re-email this information. If you need to communicate this information to Chicago VFC, your updated numbers should reflect either the children with CHIP coverage who received vaccines at your clinic during the most recent 12 months **OR** the CHIP population you plan on serving within a 12 month period if you have not been vaccinating your CHIP covered patients. You will need to email the following patient counts by age range for your CHIP-insured population.

	< 1 Year Old	1-6 Years	7-18 Years	TOTAL
Enrolled in Medicaid:	193	1,286	945	2,424
No Health Insurance:	35	85	97	217
American Indian/Alaskan Native:	0	1	2	3
Underinsured (FQHC/RHC)(Disabled for non-FQHC/RHC Facility Type):	0	1	17	18
TOTAL VFC:	228	1,373	1,061	2,662
Insured (private pay/health insurance covers vaccines):	0	0	0	0
Other Underinsured:	0	0	0	0
Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP):	8	112	133	253
TOTAL NON-VFC:	8	112	133	253
TOTAL PATIENTS:	236	1,485	1,194	2,915

2. Work with your electronic medical record/electronic health record vendor to ensure VFC and CHIP shot records are being transmitted properly to I-CARE.

Clinics transmitting patient records from an electronic medical record (EMR) via HL7 transmission to I-CARE will need to verify the following with their EMR vendor. We encourage clinics to transmit all patient immunization records to I-CARE. Clinics can add their privately purchased vaccines in I-CARE to assist in their private inventory management.

- The clinic's EMR can send all VFC and CHIP (V22) shot records.
- The clinic's EMR can send the proper VFC eligibility status codes and not just VFC yes or no.

The eligibility status codes are:

- V00: Eligibility not determined/unknown
- V01: Not VFC eligible
- V02: Medicaid/Medicaid Managed Care
- V03: Eligible-Uninsured
- V04: Eligible-American Indian/Alaska Native
- V05: Eligible-Federally Qualified Health Center patient (under-insured)
- V07: Local program eligibility (not used by Illinois VFC)
- V22: CHIP (the previous code was V06, but has been replaced by V22)
- V23: 317
- V24: Medicare

3. Use vaccine your clinic privately purchased for your CHIP population as soon possible. The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) will reimburse providers for vaccine through September 1st .

If you have any questions regarding Medicaid or CHIP billing, please contact the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS), Bureau of Professional and Ancillary Services at 1-877-782-5565.

The Illinois and Chicago VFC programs and HFS are working on a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document to be released shortly. In addition, IDPH is updating a webinar previously recorded on July 11, 2019. When available, the updated webinar and the FAQs will be emailed to all VFC providers and posted on the home page of I-CARE under "News and Announcements."

If you have concerns or questions regarding this transition please email chicagovfc@cityofchicago.org.