

VACCINES FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM NEWS BULLETIN

Chicago Department of Public Health – Immunization Program

Special Issue : January 24, 2020

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

In This Issue:

- A Chicago resident has been diagnosed with a novel coronavirus infection
- Guidance to identify potential patients who may present for treatment at a provider office.
- How to report a suspect case

Chicago Confirms First Case of Novel Coronavirus Infection in a Chicago Resident

Chicago Department of Public Health has confirmed a case of novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in a hospitalized Chicago resident on Friday morning, January 24. We are working closely with the Illinois Department of Public Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and local health care providers on the outbreak caused by this new virus, including providing consultation related to patients of concern. <https://www.chicagohan.org/2019-ncov>

What You Should Know

- Health care providers should ask patients with respiratory symptoms and fever about any travel to Wuhan, China or any known contact with a person diagnosed with 2019-nCoV
- Suspect patients under investigation should be IMMEDIATELY placed in respiratory isolation and reported to the Chicago Department of Public Health by calling the reporting line at 312/746-SICK (7425) Monday through Friday during business hours, or call 311 after hours, weekends or holidays and ask to speak with the medical director on call.
- Public health will pursue contact tracing and investigation with any persons who may have had contact with the confirmed case.

Symptoms and Exposures

- Expected patient symptoms include fever, cough, and difficulty breathing
- Current risks include a history of travel to Wuhan City, China or close contact with a person under investigation for 2019-nCoV while that person was ill




Reporting

- Health care providers should immediately notify both infection control personnel at the health care facility and CDPH. A 2019-nCoV Patient Under Investigation (PUI) form should be completed
- Information to be gathered includes dates of travel to Wuhan or time spent in a healthcare facility in Wuhan City, China as a patient, worker, or visitor
- Report any member of a cluster of patients with severe acute respiratory illness (e.g, fever and pneumonia requiring hospitalization) of unknown etiology in which 2019-nCoV is being evaluated
- Include comorbid conditions, symptoms and diagnostic testing completed if available
- To report suspected PUI cases of the 2019 novel coronavirus, please call the reporting line at 312/746-SICK (7425) Monday through Friday during business hours, or call 311 after hours, or on weekends or holidays and ask to speak with the medical director on call.



Cover your Cough

If you have a fever, difficulty breathing, and a new or worsening cough:

-  • Clean your hands
-  • Put a mask on, covering nose and mouth
-  • Report to the desk



VFC Re-Enrollment

Due 4/15/20

The work your clinic does every day is part of a nation-wide effort to protect thousands of children against vaccine-preventable diseases. Thank you for all you do to make Chicago a strong network of over 400 VFC providers. To maintain your involvement in the VFC program, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) requires all clinics to re-enroll in the VFC program annually. This year, the re-enrollment period is open until 4/15/20 in I-CARE. Please get started ASAP!

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- Re-enrollment involves completing the Enrollment Form in I-CARE and printing, signing, and submitting the Provider Agreement to the Chicago VFC Program.
- The Provider Agreement must be signed by the Medical Director and returned to the Chicago VFC Program via email (chicagovfc@cityofchicago.org) or fax (312-746-6220). The Provider Agreement is the only document that must be printed and submitted. All additional information is captured directly in I-CARE.
- Each clinic must report the number of children who received vaccinations, by age group, in 2019. This includes both VFC-eligible and non VFC-eligible (CHIP or privately insured) children. The numbers in the Provider Population section of the enrollment form in I-CARE illustrate patient data that was directly entered into ICARE or uploaded into I-CARE via electronic medical records. Please edit these numbers to accurately reflect the patients served by your clinic in 2019.



Timely completion and submission will ensure uninterrupted VFC vaccine delivery to your clinic. Failure to complete re-enrollment by the 4/15/20 due date will result in suspension of vaccine deliveries. **Step by step instructions for completing re-enrollment are included as an attachment to this bulletin.** For all re-enrollment questions please contact the Vaccine Management Unit at chicagovfc@cityofchicago.org.

IMPORTANT UPDATE

This year, Chicago VFC providers are eligible to receive both VFC and CHIP vaccines stock. VFC stock is funded by the federal government, while CHIP is a state-funded vaccine program. It is important that patients only receive the vaccine doses for which they are eligible. *A patient's eligibility should be screened prior to each visit.*

When reporting your patient population on the re-enrollment form, pay close attention to the numbers reported. The patient population listed for the 2020 year will drive the number of doses received for both the VFC and CHIP vaccines. This is a great opportunity to ensure all your numbers are correct for the 2020 year.

Addressing Vaccine Hesitancy

Interested in how best to address vaccine hesitancy? Take [this quiz](#) from Children's Hospital of Philadelphia to see how much you know, then check your answers to learn more about best practices for increasing vaccine confidence.

CHIP Vaccine

Still curious about how to order CHIP vaccine? Want to learn more and get involved? Check out the **attached guide** to walk you through how it all works.

Contact Us

Primary Contact Method

ChicagoVFC@cityofchicago.org

Please use this email for all general VFC inquiries and issues including those related to vaccine orders and temperature excursions.

Program Questions

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