



# IMPORTANT MESSAGE

California Department of Public Health  
Immunization Branch  
Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program  
850 Marina Bay Parkway  
Richmond, CA 94804

Toll Free Phone:  
877-2GET-VFC (877-243-8832)

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## VFC Flu Vaccine Requests Begin to Ship this Week!

Dear VFC Provider,

The Vaccines for Children Program has received an initial supply of flu vaccines and pending Influenza vaccine orders will begin to be released this week. Shipments should be expected within 7-10 business days. As you receive your initial vaccine order, please keep in mind the following:

- All **initial** vaccine requests were approved based on the total number of flu doses received by your clinic during the preceding flu season (plus an additional 25% to begin implementation of this year's expanded age recommendations).
- Orders may have been adjusted if 1) your **Initial** request exceeded amounts shipped to your clinic during 2007 plus the 25%; or 2) you had no history of receiving requested products in preceding years; or 3) demand for a particular product simply exceeded doses available from our initial vaccine shipments.
- Additional influenza vaccine shipments are expected by the end of October and we encourage you to place supplemental orders as needed throughout flu season (as supply permits) regardless of your assigned order frequency.
- In instances where preferred products (or presentations) were not available, VFC may have substituted your request with available products to prevent extended delays in the fulfillment of your request. You may download a copy of this year's Flu Vaccine Identification Guide at <http://www.eziz.org/PDF/IMM-859.pdf>.

### IMPORTANT:

**CHECK YOUR SHIPMENT'S PACKAGING SLIP AND VACCINE MONITOR INDICATORS UPON VACCINE ARRIVAL.** Verify that the number of doses received match the number of doses specified in the packing slip. All discrepancies or issues with vaccine shipments must be reported to VFC immediately.

**DO NOT FREEZE FLU VACCINES.** Flu vaccines must be stored at an optimal temperature of 40°F (35° to 46°F acceptable range) and kept in their original packaging until they are ready to be administered.

For any questions, please call (877) 243-8832 or  
visit our website at [www.vfc-ca.org](http://www.vfc-ca.org).