



March 4, 2016

Montana Healthcare Programs Notice

Pharmacy

Vaccine Administration by Pharmacists for Adolescents Age 12–18 Years

The Montana Medicaid Pharmacy Program uses the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program for influenza vaccines administered in a pharmacy to Medicaid-eligible children 12 through 18 years of age. Because VFC provides vaccines to this population free of charge, the Department will not reimburse the ingredient cost of the vaccine, but will continue to pay the vaccine administration fee.

VFC is a federally funded entitlement program that provides vaccines at no cost to children 0 through 18 years of age who are Medicaid eligible, American Indian, Alaskan Native, or uninsured. However, the VFC vaccines are not to be used for CHIP/Healthy Montana Kids members.

If pharmacies wish to offer influenza vaccine to VFC-eligible children 12 years and older, they must enroll in the VFC Program and use VFC influenza vaccines. The other option is to refer these patients to a nearby VFC provider or the local health department.

The Montana Immunization Program implements the VFC Program within the state. To become a VFC provider, a pharmacy must be willing to:

- Start enrollment by March 31, 2016.
- Attend a training session and host an enrollment site visit from the Immunization Program.
- Sign annually, and adhere to the provisions of a VFC Provider Site Contract.
- Follow the vaccine storage, handling, and accountability requirements set forth in the State Vaccine Management Plan.
- Order and manage VFC vaccines through the online State immunization registry.

VFC enrollment for pharmacies ends on March 31, 2016, with the goal of having participating pharmacies fully enrolled by June 2016, when orders for influenza vaccine are due. The training and enrollment site visit must be completed before receiving VFC influenza vaccine shipments.

For additional information, a pharmacy specific presentation is available on the website at: <http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/immunization/vaccinesforchildren.shtml>

To be added to the enrollment roster contact the Immunization Program at (406) 444-5580 or at hhsiz@mt.gov. Pharmacies will be contacted with enrollment materials and instructions when the process begins in March 2016.

Contact Information

If you have questions regarding this provider notice, contact Dave Campana (406) 444-5951 (Medicaid) or Lori Hutchinson (406) 444-0277 (VFC).

For claims questions or additional information, contact Provider Relations at 1-800-624-3958 (toll-free, in/out of state) or 406-442-1837 (Helena) or via e-mail at MTPRHelpdesk@xerox.com.

Visit the Montana Healthcare Programs Provider Information website at <http://medicaidprovider.mt.gov/>.