

Immunization Partners

Today's update includes the vaccine shipping file for the week of 1/23/12, an update on receiving vaccine in the Immunization Information System, an update on the winter storm, a note about our Yellow Fever Vaccine Program website, a request for help with completion of vaccine incident forms, and a save the date for a preview of new vaccine ordering features coming in February.

General Vaccine Ordering Update:

We attached the shipping file for the week of 01/23/2012

Update: Since last fall, we have not imported vaccine-shipping files into the Immunization Information System because of a problem with the import process. We expect the problem to be fixed in mid-February. Until then, providers can still manually receive orders with an Approved status by entering the vaccine manufacturer, lot number, and expiration date on the Receive Order screen.

Winter Storm Update:

We heard back from most LHJs affected by the recent winter storm. So far, it seems relatively few providers had vaccine losses because of the extreme weather and subsequent power outages. We will know the final toll when we receive all storm related Vaccine Incident Reports. Thanks to everyone for making sure providers have emergency back-up plans and use them and for following up with providers after the storm. We received updated information about vaccine stability from all manufacturers. This is a good opportunity to remind providers about the importance of the emergency back-up plan, and knowing what to do when there is a power outage. We attached an updated vaccine stability table and a document called, "What to do When a Storage Incident Occurs."

Please e-mail us with success stories from providers who implemented their emergency backup plans and saved vaccine during this incident. Jan.Hicks-Thomson@doh.wa.gov

Yellow Fever Vaccine Program:

The Office of Immunization Child Profile has a Yellow Fever Vaccine Program webpage for questions about the Yellow Fever Vaccine Program. We posted the enrollment form and other information we think may be a useful resource for providers and LHJs on the site.

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/immunize/providers/yellowfever.htm>

Vaccine Incident and Return Forms:

When we get incident report forms with incomplete or unreadable information, it slows down the vaccine return process. We spend extra time deciphering the information on the forms. We must correct data when McKesson receives a different amount of vaccine than we report in the CDC system. You can help by making sure the following items are clear, accurate and complete:

- The provider PIN and demographic information – use the complete clinic name.
- The vaccine names, lot numbers and expiration dates
- The correct number of doses returned for each lot number – don't total doses for multiple lot numbers.
- The number of doses on the form matches the number of doses in the return carton.
- The correct code for the incident type – please include a code every time.

We can process vaccine returns more quickly with less follow-up if information is correct the first time.

Save the Date – New IIS Features and Functions Demo:

In mid-February, we expect a release of the IIS with new vaccine ordering features. We scheduled two on-line demonstrations for LHJs to review the changes in the system prior to the release. Please save the date and plan to attend one of the sessions noted below. The same information will be shared at both sessions. Call-in and web link information will be provided next week.

- Tuesday, February 7, from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, February 8, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.