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Hib Vaccine Interim Recommendations Update

The Florida Department of Health Bureau of Immunization would like to remind providers to continue deferring the Hib vaccine booster dose administered at age 12-15 months except for specific high-risk groups described below and in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR).

Follow the basic interim recommendations:

- Do not give the Hib vaccine booster to healthy children aged 12-15 months.
- Continue to give booster to high-risk children with asplenia, sickle cell disease, HIV, other immune syndromes, or those who are Alaskan or Native American.
- Extend the Temporary Medical Exemptions (TMEs) for children 12 to 15 months of age who are attending/entering child-care as the Florida Certification of Immunization (DH Form 680) is issued or expires.
- Do not stock HIB vaccine to give the booster dose during the shortage. This practice can take away from providers who are struggling to provide the primary immunization series.
- Plan for when the HIB vaccine shortage is over. Utilize best practice/recall-reminder systems and review the catch-up schedule:
<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules/child-schedule.htm#catchup>.
- Continue to keep track of children given TME extensions in order to recall them when HIB vaccine supplies allow.

The bureau will continue to provide updates. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Robert Griffin, VFC Program Coordinator, or your VFC Program Representative at (800) 483-2543.

Please remember that revised Hib recommendations are **NOT** office specific--**these affect the whole country.**

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