



Charlie Crist
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.
State Surgeon General

June 7, 2010

Dear Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program Participants:

New Information Resource Regarding Pneumococcal Vaccine Use in Children

The Bureau of Immunization would like to direct your attention to a particularly timely and useful document developed by the Immunization Action Coalition (IAC).

This document, directed towards a healthcare provider audience, is a concise "one-pager" presenting recommendations, schedules, and answers to questions concerning Pneumococcal Vaccine Use in Children.

This document was promoted in a recent IAC Express (#870) as follows:

Many healthcare providers have questions about the use of the new 13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV13), especially when dealing with catch-up vaccination and children with medical conditions that are indications for both PCV and pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV23). To help answer such questions, IAC has developed a new handout, "Recommendations for Pneumococcal Vaccine Use in Children," that spells out the recommendations for every scenario.

This new resource includes three tables. The first table provides the recommended PCV13 schedule based on the child's age and PCV7 and/or PCV13 vaccination history. The second table provides the recommended schedule for administering PPSV23 vaccine to children; the third table lists the underlying medical conditions that are indications for pneumococcal vaccination among children.

IAC's Handouts for Patients and Staff web section offers healthcare professionals and the public approximately 250 FREE English-language handouts (many also available in translation), which we encourage website users to print out, copy, and distribute widely.

To access all of IAC's free handouts, go to: <http://www.immunize.org/handouts>

A PDF of the document is available at <http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2016.pdf>

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Please contact Laura Rutledge or John Keegan of my staff for questions regarding Vaccine Recommendations and IAC materials respectively, at (850) 245-4342.

Please contact Robert Griffin, VFC Program Coordinator, or your VFC staff representative if you have any questions regarding vaccine supply, at (800) 483-2543.

Sincerely,

Signature on file

Charles H. Alexander, Chief
Bureau of Immunization
Division of Disease Control

CHA/rg/st

cc: Laura Rutledge, R.N., Executive Community Health Nursing Director,
Bureau of Immunization
Robert Griffin, VFC Program Coordinator, Bureau of Immunization

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