



Charlie Crist  
Governor

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

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February 19, 2009

Dear Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program Participants:

**Recommended Immunization Schedules for Persons Aged 0 Through 18 Years, United States, 2009**

The Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Immunization is pleased to announce the 2009 immunization schedule recommendations for children and adolescents. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) annually publishes immunization schedules that summarize recommendations for currently licensed vaccines for children 18 years of age and younger. The Recommended Immunization Schedules for Persons Aged 0 Through 18 Years — United States, 2009 was published and is cited as: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Recommended immunization schedules for persons aged 0 through 18 years—United States, 2009, *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)* 2008; 57 (51 & 52).

You may find the *MMWR* on the CDC website at:

[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5751a5.htm?s\\_cid=mm5751a5\\_e](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5751a5.htm?s_cid=mm5751a5_e).

**Please note:** due to an error in the *MMWR* regarding the age recommendations for the rotavirus vaccines, an erratum has been published for the *MMWR*. You may find the erratum on the CDC website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5753a5.htm>.

Changes to the previous schedule are noted:

- Recommendations for rotavirus vaccines include changes for the maximum age for the first dose (14 weeks 6 days) and the maximum age for the final dose (8 months 0 days). The rotavirus footnote also indicates that if RV1 (Rotarix®) is administered at the ages of 2 and 4 months, a dose at the age of 6 months is not indicated.
- Routine annual influenza vaccination is recommended for all children 6 months to 18 years of age. Children younger than 9 years old who are receiving influenza vaccine for the first time, or who were vaccinated for the first time during the previous season but only received 1 dose, should receive 2 doses of influenza vaccine at least 4 weeks apart. Healthy non-pregnant persons 2 to 49 years of age may receive either live attenuated influenza vaccine or inactivated influenza vaccine.
- The minimum interval between tetanus and diphtheria toxoids (Td), and tetanus and diphtheria toxoids and acellular pertussis vaccine (Tdap), for persons 10 to 18 years of age is addressed. An interval less than 5 years may be used if pertussis immunity is needed.
- Information about the use of *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) conjugate vaccine among persons 5 years of age and older at increased risk for invasive Hib disease has been added. Use of Hib vaccine for these persons is not contraindicated.

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- Catch-up vaccination with human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine is clarified. Routine dosing intervals should be used for series catch-up (i.e., the second and third doses should be administered 2 and 6 months after the first dose). The third dose should be given at least 24 weeks after the first dose.
- Abbreviations for rotavirus, pneumococcal polysaccharide and meningococcal polysaccharide vaccines have been changed.

By Federal law, all vaccine providers must give patients, or their parents or legal representatives, the appropriate Vaccine Information Statements (VIS) whenever a vaccination is given. As needed, the providers should supplement VISs orally, with videotapes, with additional print material, or in any other way that will help recipients understand the disease and vaccine. Sufficient time should be allotted to review the VIS and discuss the benefits of the vaccines, the diseases they prevent, any contraindications or possible known risks from the vaccines, and what to expect following the immunization. A contact number should be provided to the parent or guardian in the event there are questions or medical concerns.

Attached are the 2009 Recommended Immunization Schedules for Persons Aged 0 Through 18 Years. You can review the recommended immunization schedules on the CDC's website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules/default.htm>

Please widely distribute this information to all staff, colleagues, members, coalitions, and partners with an interest in the supply, distribution, management, and administration of child and adolescent vaccines. Please contact Phyllis Yambor, R.N., Bureau of Immunization, at (850) 245-4342, if you have any questions regarding the use of VISs. For information regarding the VFC Program, please contact Robert Griffin, VFC Program Coordinator, or your VFC Program representative at (800) 483-2543.

Sincerely,

Signature on file

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

CHA/rg/sdh

Enclosures

cc: Phyllis Yambor, Executive Community Health Nursing Director,  
Bureau of Immunization  
Robert Griffin, VFC Program Coordinator,  
Bureau of Immunization  
Bureau of Immunization Field Staff



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February 24, 2009

Dear Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program Participants:

**Correction: Recommended Immunization Schedules for Persons Aged 0 Through 18 Years, United States, 2009**

The Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Immunization is sending this letter to notify you that the letter sent yesterday via fax from the bureau concerning the release of the recommended immunization schedules **contains an error regarding recommendations for rotavirus vaccines**. The letter sent yesterday *incorrectly indicates "the maximum age for the final dose (8 weeks 0 days)"*. The Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (*MMWR*) 2008; 57 (51 & 52) states "the maximum age for the final dose of the series (8 months 0 days)". **The correct maximum age is 8 months 0 days.**

You can find the *MMWR* on the CDC website at:

[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5751a5.htm?s\\_cid=mm5751a5\\_e](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5751a5.htm?s_cid=mm5751a5_e).

**Please note:** an erratum was published for the *MMWR*. You can find the erratum on the CDC website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5753a5.htm>.

You can review the recommended immunization schedules on the CDC's website at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules/default.htm>

We are pleased that this error was brought to our attention so quickly. The bureau asks that you help us curtail the spread of this inaccurate information by forwarding this correction notice to those with whom you shared yesterday's letter.

Please contact Phyllis Yambor, R.N., Bureau of Immunization, at (850) 245-4342, if you have any questions regarding the recommended immunization schedules. For information regarding the VFC Program, please contact Robert Griffin, VFC Program Coordinator, or your VFC Program representative at (800) 483-2543.

Sincerely,

Signature on file

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

CHA/rg/sdh

cc: Phyllis Yambor, Executive Community Health Nursing Director,  
Bureau of Immunization  
Robert Griffin, VFC Program Coordinator,  
Bureau of Immunization  
Bureau of Immunization Field Staff