



Charlie Crist  
Governor

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

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April 21, 2008

Dear Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program Participants:

The Bureau of Immunization is providing the following immunization updates regarding the use of 7-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV7) among children aged 24 to 59 months, who are either unvaccinated or who have a lapse in PCV7 administration:

**Updated Recommendation for Use of 7-Valent Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV7)**

The Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Immunization announces publication of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) 2008; volume 57, number 13* on April 4, 2008, concerning 7-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV7), marketed as Prevnar®.

You may access the Weekly *MMWR* at the link provided below:

[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5713a4.htm?s\\_cid=mm5713a4\\_e](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5713a4.htm?s_cid=mm5713a4_e)

This notice updates the recommendation for use of Prevnar® among children aged 24 to 59 months who are either unvaccinated or who have a lapse in PCV7 administration. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) Pneumococcal Vaccines Work Group reviewed data on PCV7, and on the basis of that review, the ACIP approved the following revised recommendation for use of PCV7 in children aged 24 to 59 months:

- For all healthy children aged 24 to 59 months who have not completed any recommended schedule for Prevnar®, administer 1 dose of Prevnar®.
- For all children with underlying medical conditions aged 24 to 59 months who have received 3 doses, administer 1 dose of Prevnar®.
- For all children with underlying medical conditions aged 24 to 59 months who have received < 3 doses, administer 2 doses of Prevnar® at least 8 weeks apart.

No changes were made to previously published ACIP recommendations regarding:

- The use of Prevnar® in children aged 2 to 23 months.
- The list of underlying medical or immunocompromising conditions.
- The use of 23-valent pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine in children aged >2 years who have previously received PCV7.

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You may access the updated childhood immunization schedules at the link provided below:

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

The bureau asks that you provide this information to colleagues, members, coalitions, and partners with an interest in the administration of Prevnar®. If you have any questions or comments regarding the CDC recommendations, please contact Phyllis Yambor, R.N., Bureau of Immunization, at (850) 245-4342. For information regarding the VFC Program vaccine supply, please contact Robert Griffin, VFC Program Coordinator, or your VFC Customer Service 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/sdh

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