



Charlie Crist
Governor

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

June 10, 2008

Dear Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program Participants:

Update: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)'s Vaccine Information Statements (VIS)

The Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Immunization is providing the following VIS Statements: Multi-Vaccine VIS and updated Meningococcal VIS.

Please remember that the National Childhood Vaccine Injury (NCVI) Act requires that all health-care providers give patients, their parents, or legal representatives a copy of the appropriate VIS before administering a vaccine.

The CDC's Multi-Vaccine VIS

On January 30, 2008, the CDC posted a Multi-vaccine VIS on its website. This VIS may be used in place of individual VISs whenever routine birth through 6-month vaccines (DTaP, IPV, Hib, Hepatitis B, PCV, and Rotavirus) are administered at the same visit, or when combination vaccines containing those components (e.g., Pediarix® or Comvax®) are used during the same visit. In addition to the birth, 2, 4, and 6-month visits, this VIS could also be used for the 4th and 5th doses of DTaP and the 4th doses of PCV, IPV, or Hib (if they are given at the recommended ages). You do not need to give all six vaccines at one time in order to use this VIS.

Use of the Multi-vaccine VIS is an optional alternative to providing single-vaccine VISs for each of these six vaccines. The individual VISs for these vaccines may still be used. This VIS is 4 pages (2 pages front and back) instead of the usual 2 pages. The publication date is 01/30/08.

Before you hand this VIS to the patient, you MUST go to page one of the VIS and place a check mark in front of the name of each vaccine you will be administering at that visit.

Please note: This Multi-vaccine VIS should NOT be used when any of these vaccines are administered to adolescents or adults because it does not contain information about risk factors, etc. for those ages.

You may find the Multi-vaccine VIS at the links provided below:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/downloads/vis-multi.pdf>
http://www.immunize.org/vis/vis_multi1.pdf

For instructions on how to use this VIS, please visit http://www.immunize.org/vis/vis_multi1.asp. For additional information about the use of VISs, and for VISs in more than 30 languages, please visit <http://www.immunize.org/vis>.

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FLORIDA SHOTS: The Multi-vaccine VIS covers DTaP, Hep B, Polio, PCV, HIB, and Rotavirus. When recording vaccinations of these types, the VIS option available by default will be this form. To record the VIS publication date of any of the other single vaccine forms, click the "Other VIS Options" button.

The CDC's Meningococcal Vaccines VIS

The Meningococcal VIS has been updated again in order to make it consistent with the recent licensure of MCV4 (Menacta®) for children ages 2 to 10 years who are at increased risk of meningococcal disease, and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' recommendations for this age group. The publication date is 01/28/08. Existing stocks of the last version of this VIS may be used up, although the most current version should be used when administering MCV4 (Menactra®) to patients ages 2 to 10 years.

You may find the updated Meningococcal VIS at the link provided below:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/default.htm>

Please widely distribute this information to colleagues, members, coalitions, and partners with an interest the administration of child and adolescent vaccines.

If you have any questions regarding the use of the Multi-vaccine VIS or the updated Meningococcal VIS, please contact Phyllis Yambor, R.N., Bureau of Immunization, at (850) 245-4342. For information regarding the VFC Program, 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