

New York State Vaccines for Children Program (NYS VFC)

Separation of Publicly-Funded Vaccine Stock

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has implemented an initiative to increase accountability for publicly-funded vaccine. The CDC would have required that Vaccines for Children (VFC) providers physically separate each of their four public vaccine stocks by funding source: VFC-funded, other federally-funded, State-funded and SCHIP-funded vaccine. The CDC also would have required that providers only use each public vaccine stock for those eligible for that particular program. The New York State (NYS) Vaccine Program recognizes the difficulty of implementing this requirement and has worked with the CDC to implement a solution that would ensure accountability without the need to maintain separate vaccine stocks.

The NYS VFC Program requires that VFC providers physically separate public vaccine from private vaccine stock in their refrigerator and freezer storage units. This is affirmed when a provider signs the annual VFC Provider Agreement and is verified and reinforced at the time of a VFC site visit. In addition, providers are required to submit their inventory through the New York State Immunization Information System (NYSIIS).

In order for NYS VFC providers to be exempt from the new CDC guidelines requiring the separation of publicly funded vaccines, providers must adhere to ALL of the following:

1. Report ALL doses administered including vaccine eligibility, within two weeks of administration, in NYSIIS.
2. Review and accurately update patient population data on current and all future VFC Provider Profiles. Patient populations must be consistent with reported doses administered in NYSIIS.
3. Communicate any significant changes in patient population to the NYS VFC Program, as they occur, to ensure an accurate provider profile at all times.
4. Maintain an accurate inventory by using the NYSIIS inventory module.
5. Provide the NYS VFC Program with accurate provider office contact information, including, an up-to-date e-mail and office phone number. Any changes to contact information should be communicated to the NYS VFC Program immediately.

Failure to satisfy any of the above steps could result in the need for a provider to separate public vaccine stock by funding source as identified on the vaccine packing slip that arrives with all VFC vaccine shipments.

In accordance with the NYS Vaccine Program's agreement with the CDC, the NYS VFC Program will implement the following:

1. The NYS VFC staff will analyze vaccine eligibility data recorded in NYSIIS monthly to ensure eligibility information is consistent with that reported in the provider profile.
2. When eligibility information for doses ordered differs significantly from the doses administered reports, NYS VFC staff will contact a provider to discuss and address discrepancies.