



MEMO

TO: Influenza Vaccine Providers
FROM: Abbi Pierce, MPH
VFC Manager
RE: Pediarix Supply Update
DATE: April 22, 2013

The North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) Immunization Program was notified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on April 19, 2013 that as a result of the ongoing Pentacel® vaccine shortage that began in April 2012, GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) has experienced increased demand for Pediarix® vaccine and is now in short supply. Pediarix® inventory is not able to meet the market demand and the NDDoH will begin receiving monthly allocations from CDC effective immediately.

The NDDoH will be allocated approximately one half of the amount that is historically ordered on a monthly basis. **Providers may continue to place orders for Pediarix®, but should expect to receive only about half of the amount that your facility has historically ordered and should order no more than one month's supply. In the vaccine ordering module in the North Dakota Immunization Information System (NDIIS) a one-month order is depicted in the "suggested order min" column.**

An option that providers may elect to implement during this supply delay is administering single antigen DTaP and IPV vaccines at the four-month visit instead of Pediarix® or Pentacel®. The third dose of hepatitis B is recommended after 24 weeks of age so it is not required to be given at the four-month immunization visit.

GSK will also be implementing allocations of Pediarix® in the private market. Please see the attached letter from GSK for more information.

Please feel free to contact the NDDoH Immunization Program with any questions or concerns at 701.328.3386 or toll-free at 800.472.2180.



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April 2013

Subject: PEDIARIX® [Diphtheria and Tetanus Toxoids and Acellular Pertussis Adsorbed, Hepatitis B (Recombinant) and Inactivated Poliovirus Vaccine] Supply Update

Dear Healthcare Provider:

On behalf of GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) Vaccines, I would like to take this opportunity to make you aware of the steps GSK is taking with regard to supply for its combination diphtheria, tetanus, and acellular pertussis (DTaP) vaccine, PEDIARIX, in light of ongoing market supply constraints on combination DTaP vaccines.

In response to the shortage of combination DTaP vaccine from another supplier to the marketplace beginning in April 2012, GSK took steps to meet increased demand for its combination DTaP vaccine by increasing production.

Having recently become aware that the current marketplace shortage is now expected to continue into the summer of 2013, GSK will continue its efforts to increase production of PEDIARIX to help meet market demand. However, due to the long lead time required to manufacture vaccines, the additional supply of PEDIARIX is not anticipated to be available until Q3 2013.

Unfortunately, due to the continued shortage of combination DTaP vaccine, GSK now expects to be able to cover only a portion of the continued shortage with PEDIARIX. To help ensure that some quantity of combination DTaP vaccine remains available to as many providers as possible, GSK will institute allocations of PEDIARIX until September 2013 with the intention of removing these allocations once DTaP combination vaccine availability increases.

Please be aware that GSK currently expects to have sufficient supply of INFANRIX® (Diphtheria and Tetanus Toxoids and Acellular Pertussis Vaccine Adsorbed) to cover the potential shortage of PEDIARIX that may result from our allocation efforts.

GSK shares your goal of vaccinating all appropriate infants against diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis. I want to extend my sincerest apologies for any frustration or disruption to your practices and facilities this short-term allocation of PEDIARIX may cause.

Please do not hesitate to contact GlaxoSmithKline with any further questions or concerns. You may reach out to us at 1.866.GSK.VACC (1.866.475.8222) or contact your GlaxoSmithKline Vaccines Representative today.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Thomas".

Michael F. Thomas
US Vaccines Business Unit Head