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Date: December 2, 2015

To: Iowa Vaccines for Children Program Providers

From: Iowa VFC Program

Re: Pentacel (DTaP-IPV/ActHIB) Supply Delay

The Iowa Immunization Program has been notified of a supply delay related to Sanofi Pasteur's Pentacel (DTaP-IPV/Hib) vaccine. This delay will cause the Iowa Vaccines for Children Program to receive Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) determined monthly allocations of Pentacel. The Pentacel allocation is approximately 70% of what is normally distributed each month to satisfy Iowa VFC health care provider demand. The limited supply and vaccine allocations are anticipated to last throughout the first six months of 2016. In addition, CDC is monitoring single antigen vaccines contained in Pentacel and is providing monthly allocations slightly above normal distribution.

When placing vaccine orders for Pentacel, please order accordingly to accommodate the reduced allocation quantity, orders should be consistent with 70% of the recommend order quantity as indicated in IRIS. Orders for single antigen vaccines may be placed as alternatives to Pentacel. Vaccine orders for Pentacel may be reduced to allow all providers to receive a portion of the Program's vaccine allocation. As necessary, the VFC Program will contact providers regarding vaccine orders to discuss the availability of Pentacel and use of single antigen vaccines.

During this time, single alternative vaccines are available and must be used to avoid missed opportunities to vaccinate. Providers should not borrow vaccine from their private stock to vaccinate VFC eligible children.

The CDC has prepared [Guidance for Vaccinating Children](#) during the 2015-16 Pentacel Manufacturing Delay available on the Immunization Program webpage.

The Immunization Program appreciates your understanding and assistance with this matter. If you have questions regarding vaccine orders, please contact the VFC Program at 1-800-831-6293 ext. 5.