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**TO:** Texas Vaccines For Children (TVFC) Providers

**FROM:** Saroj Rai, Ph.D.  
Immunization Branch Manager

**DATE:** February 28, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Influenza Vaccine Orders for 2013-2014 Season

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Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) Program providers may begin placing orders for the 2013-2014 influenza season on February 28, 2013. This memo details the online ordering process. Please keep in mind that the order you place now is your actual influenza order that will be delivered starting in the fall of 2013. The deadline for placing an order is **March 18<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM.**

TVFC enrolled primary care providers are required to offer all ACIP-recommended vaccines for the populations they serve, including influenza. Offering annual flu vaccines ensures patients' protection against the disease and supports and maintains the ongoing relationship between the patient and medical home. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends annual flu vaccination for all individuals six months of age and up. Please visit the CDC web page designed for professionals at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/index.htm> for complete recommendations and other vaccine information.

Providers not planning to order influenza vaccine this season, must complete the survey and select the box "I do not want to order ANY influenza vaccine for the 2013-14 flu season." This will prompt the provider to select the reason(s) for not ordering influenza vaccine.

Providers may request preferred influenza product brands and formulations. These requests will be honored to the extent possible; however, choice is limited to products and funding allocated to TVFC by the CDC. Orders may be filled in their entirety or in partial shipments as vaccines become available next fall.

Next season, both trivalent and quadrivalent influenza vaccines will be offered. The quadrivalent vaccines will protect against four strains of influenza: two A-strains and two B-strains. The remaining vaccines are trivalent and will contain the same two A-strains as the quadrivalent and one of the B- strains.

## **2013-2014 Electronic Influenza Order Process:**

Prior to **March 18<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM:**

Log on to the Influenza Order Website at: <http://TVFCflu.questionpro.com>

1. Choose your region from the drop down list. Note: Your region is the first two numbers of your TVFC Provider Identification Number (PIN). City of Houston is listed as COH 25 and San Antonio Metro is listed as SAMHD 00. If you do not know your TVFC PIN, please contact your Local Health Department (LHD) or Health Service Region (HSR) TVFC representative.
2. When the second drop down list appears, select your clinic and PIN. If you do not see your PIN in the list, select "Do not see my PIN" from the top and then enter your 6-digit TVFC PIN in the blank provided, using the leading 0 (zero) if applicable.
3. Enter contact information as indicated.
4. Influenza vaccines are listed by applicable age categories. Enter the number of doses of each influenza product you would like to order. This order should be based on reliable information such as client numbers, the number of doses administered in previous seasons, next year's influenza clinic plans, etc.
5. Enter number of doses in increments of ten (10). Do not enter number of vials.
6. The light bulb symbol next to a vaccine type will provide additional information relating to that specific vaccine.
7. Enter the full name of the person completing the form. It must be a person listed on the clinic's enrollment form, but does not have to be the actual enrolled signing provider.
8. Read the authorizing section and click on the "I agree" buttons if you agree.
9. To submit your order request for the 2013-14 influenza season, click on the "Submit Order Form" button at the bottom of the order. A confirmation page will appear; please print for your records.

**Note:** If you need to change your order after it has been submitted, you must start over and enter an entirely new order. Your latest dated order submission will be considered your final order.

The deadline to submit an order is **March 18<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM**. Orders received later than this date may not be filled with product choice or doses requested. Ordering will be opened again later this year for providers who missed this deadline or who want to order additional vaccine. Orders placed after March 18<sup>th</sup> will be filled after the first round of orders, and the amount and type of vaccine that is not guaranteed.

Online submission of influenza orders is preferred; however, if a provider site does not have access to the web to place the order, a physical order form may be used. Please contact the LHD or HSR where you submit your routine TVFC orders to obtain a physical form.

The 2013-14 Influenza Vaccine Information Statements (VIS) will be available for order in late summer or early fall of 2013. By federal law, an appropriate VIS must be given to all patients, or their parent or legal representative when receiving an influenza vaccine. VIS forms will not be included with influenza vaccines. VIS forms must be ordered by providers early enough to ensure they are available prior to receiving influenza vaccine. To order Influenza VIS forms free of charge, please visit [www.immunizetexas.com](http://www.immunizetexas.com). VIS forms may be obtained by clicking on the Reference Center on the left side of the page, click the link for "Literature & Forms." If you have questions or concerns regarding ordering immunization literature or forms, please call 1-(800)-252-9152.

TVFC-supplied influenza vaccine is reserved for children 6 months to 18 years of age as follows:

**TVFC Children Eligible for Trivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (TIV)**

- All children aged 6 months through 18 years.

**TVFC Children Eligible for Quadrivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (QIV)**

- All children aged 3 years through 18 years.

**TVFC Children Eligible for Live, Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV)**

- All healthy children and adolescents (those who do not have an underlying medical condition that predisposes them to flu complications) aged 2 years through 18 years.

As the duration of the influenza season varies and influenza disease might not appear in certain communities until February or March, influenza vaccination efforts should continue throughout the season.

If you need additional vaccine for the current season, or have questions regarding the ordering process for 2013-14 influenza vaccine, please contact your LHD or HSR representative.