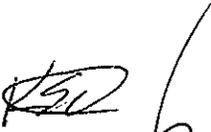




## Memorandum

**TO:** Regional Directors, Health Service Regions  
Regional Immunization Program Managers, Health Service Regions  
Health Department Directors, Local Health Departments  
Immunization Program Managers, Local Health Departments  
TVFC Providers

**FROM:** Karen Hess, Manager  
Vaccine Services Group 

**THRU:** Monica Gamez, Director  
Infectious Disease Control Unit 

**DATE:** October 1, 2012

**SUBJECT:** Texas Vaccines for Children Program: Pentacel<sup>®</sup> Further Reduced

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In April, The Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) Program was notified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) about a temporary shortage that limited supply of Sanofi Pasteur's Pentacel<sup>®</sup> vaccine [Diphtheria and Tetanus Toxoids and Acellular Pertussis Adsorbed (DTaP), Inactivated Poliovirus (IPV), and *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib)] to about two thirds of normal quantity. The CDC has now indicated the shortage is much worse than anticipated and vaccine allocations for this product will be cut significantly beginning in October.

Effective immediately, TVFC provider Maximum Stock Levels (MSLs) for Pentacel<sup>®</sup> will be reduced to ten percent. This reduction will happen automatically in the Electronic Vaccine Inventory (EVI) system. Until further notice, providers will not be allowed to order over their newly defined Pentacel<sup>®</sup> MSL. The remaining doses will be substituted with the following single vaccines: DTaP- Infanrix<sup>®</sup> vials, IPV – IPOL<sup>®</sup>, and Hib – ActHIB<sup>®</sup>. Sanofi Pasteur is also limiting their DTaP vaccine, Daptacel, to private providers. For this reason, it is not the chosen substitute. Providers may accept these substitutions or may reduce or zero out these products in EVI, and instead choose other products, including Daptacel, as substitutions.

If you would like additional information on vaccine options by age, please go to [www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/tvfc/default.shtm](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/tvfc/default.shtm) and look under Provider Resources for *Vaccine Options by Age*, and *CDC Pentacel Guidance Document*. If single antigens or other

combinations are not showing as ordering options, or if providers need to change current vaccine selections, the opportunity to alter vaccine choices in EVI will begin on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

If you have questions regarding Pentacel<sup>®</sup> or vaccine MSLS, please contact your local health department, health service region, or TVFC consultant.