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

THRU: Monica Gamez, Director
       Infectious Disease Control Unit

THRU: Saroj Rai, Ph.D., Manager
       Immunization Branch

FROM: Karen Hess, Manager
       Vaccine Services Group

DATE: October 26, 2012

SUBJECT: Texas Vaccines for Children Program: Measles/Mumps/Rubella/Varicella (MMRV) Vaccine Becoming Available

Texas has received notification from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that they expect to have a contract in place and to reinstate ordering of ProQuad®, the Measles/Mumps/Rubella/Varicella (MMRV) vaccine in November 2012. Currently, providers who have MMRV as a vaccine choice in the Electronic Vaccine Inventory (EVI) system are seeing substituted products when they place orders (since MMRV is not offered). As soon as the CDC confirms that the product is available for order (possibly early November), the substitution will be turned off and MMRV will be available for live order. If providers wish to add MMRV as a vaccine choice, they will be able to do so in EVI from November 7th-16th using the Update Choice tab.

To prevent measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends a two-dose vaccine schedule in childhood, with the first dose administered at age 12 to 15 months and the second dose at age 4 to 6 years. MMRV vaccine may be used for children aged 12 months to 12 years instead of the separate measles, mumps, rubella vaccine (MMR) and varicella vaccines.

In June 2009, ACIP adopted new recommendations regarding use of MMRV vaccine for the first and second doses and identified a personal or family history of seizure as a precaution for use of
MMRV vaccine. These recommendations are available at:
http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5903a1.htm

If you have questions regarding MMRV ordering or vaccine choice, please contact your Health Service Region or Local Health Department representative.