



Jab and Gab Immunization Newsletter

Wyoming Department of Health-October 2013



Manager's Corner By Lisa Wordeman

Last flu season, I walked confidently into a local medical office and requested my influenza vaccine, as well as a Tdap vaccine. I was very surprised when the nurse gave me a sideways glance and asked "Did you step on a nail?" I informed her that I had not stepped on a nail, however knew that I hadn't received a Td vaccine in over 10 years and I had not received a pertussis vaccine as an adult. I was questioned about my wellness benefits and if I had used them up for the year. Because I didn't know the answer to that, I was informed that I should check with my insurance carrier and come back another day. They

happily vaccinated me against influenza and I walked out the door without receiving my Tdap vaccine.

What an eye opening experience this was for me. It also got me thinking about VFC/WyVIP providers.

- What are you doing, as a provider, to ensure your adults are fully vaccinated?
- Do you share with them what is recommended for adults?
- When a parent brings their 2 month old baby in to get immunized, do you ask if the parent is protected as well?
- Do parents understand the importance of influenza and Tdap vaccines to ensure

protection for their infant? A handout would be a great resource for new parents to learn how they can protect their child by getting themselves immunized.

To conclude my story, I walked out of that office and forgot all about following up with my insurance company. Just last month, I was walking down the sidewalk and felt a pinch in my foot. I looked down and removed a rusty nail from my shoe! I marched right back to the medical office and happily removed my shoe and rolled up my sleeve. I can proudly say I finally received my Tdap immunization-- It's unfortunate it was a year in the making.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Manager's Corner	1
Fraud & Abuse	1
VFC/ WyVIP Program Changes	2
VFC Influenza Vaccine	2
Min/Max Temperatures	2
HPV Vaccine Recommendations	2
Compliance and Thermometer Calibration	3
Inactivating "0" Lot Numbers	3
Fluzone® NDC Labeling	4
Upcoming Changes to VOMS	4
Immunization Report Card	5
Kinrix® - Kindergarten	5
WyIR Update	6
2014 Regional Training Survey	7



Fraud & Abuse: Vaccine Administration Fee By Lisa Wordeman

The vaccine administration fee increased earlier this year, much to the delight of VFC/WyVIP providers. Unfortunately, the Immunization Unit has had to investigate four cases of fraud and abuse so far this year after the fee increase. Typically, the Unit identifies zero to one fraud and abuse case per year. What is being discovered is

that when the vaccine administration fee changed, the billing departments unlocked the code and increased the fee, as allowed. Unfortunately, the code did not get locked again after this increase. Since then, some offices have had fee increases on all services, and this increase was applied to the administration fee since

the code was unlocked. This action raises the fee above what is acceptable by federal law and then opens the provider up to a fraud and abuse investigation.

Providers must be in regular contact with their billing department. Discuss the importance of not increasing this fee and the need to lock the code.

Having regular conversations with them can help ensure your office is not a part of a fraud and abuse investigation.





VFC/WyVIP Vaccine Packing Slips

By Jude Alden, MBA

The CDC will be implementing some changes to the VFC Program. The first thing providers will notice is a fund type split on the packing slip for their October vaccine shipment. The packing slip will separate doses by fund type: State, CHIP, VFC, and 317. Providers **DO NOT** need to make any changes at this time to how

vaccine is "received," managed or stored in their office. Providers should keep the packing slip for later reference.

The Immunization Unit will communicate with providers through the bi-monthly teleconference, blast fax, and email as more information becomes available from the CDC.



2013-2014 VFC Influenza Vaccine

By Jude Alden, MBA

Providers are now able to order VFC Influenza vaccine. The following presentations are currently available for ordering:

- Fluzone® 0.25mL syringe
- Fluzone® 5mL multi-dose vial
- Flumist® Quadrivalent Single Dose Sprayer
- Fluarix® 0.5mL Quadrivalent syringe

Allocations for Fluzone® 0.5mL single-dose vials are not yet available for ordering. Providers will be notified via email when it is available.

Provider Guidelines

- Influenza vaccine orders can be placed any time during the month but are processed on Thursdays.
- Order quantity should be based on a **single month's use**, not the entire flu season.
- Vaccine Information Statements (VIS) for each vaccine can be found on the Immunization Unit website at www.immunizewyoming.com.
- Borrowing between public stock influenza vaccine and private stock influenza vaccine is **NOT permitted**.

Program Contacts

Influenza Vaccine Orders:

- ⇒ LaChel May, Provider Relations Administrative Assistant
307-777-8503
lachel.may@wyo.gov
- ⇒ Jude Alden, VFC Coordinator
307-777-2413
jude.serrano1@wyo.gov



HPV Vaccine Recommendations: The Meaning Behind the Message

By Val Koch, RN, Clinical Quality and Compliance Specialist

Did you know? Research shows that straightforward messages and strong recommendations from an adolescent's healthcare provider are important to parents when making decisions regarding immunizations.

Did you know? The way you phrase a recommendation can make the difference between parents saying yes or no to having their child vaccinated with HPV vaccine.

For example:

"I highly recommend your child

receive the Tdap, Meningococcal and HPV vaccines today."

"Your child is required to get the Tdap vaccine today, however the Meningococcal and HPV vaccines are optional."

Which statement would encourage the parent to immunize their child against HPV? Parents trust their child's health care providers and what they tell them. They have valid questions/concerns when it comes to HPV vaccine:

- Why does my 11 year old need to be vaccinated against a sexually transmitted disease?
- Will vaccinating my child give them permission to have sex?
- My child is not sexually active, so why does she/he need the vaccine?

Take the time to listen and answer these questions. Provide strong and clear recommendations. Believe in the meaning behind your message!



New Thermometer Purchases and Calibration Certificates

By Kristy Westfall

Compliance issues identified during a VFC Compliance Site Visit must be resolved according to CDC requirements and as identified on the site visit closure letter.

For example, a provider is cited for not having a calibrated thermometer and must purchase a new device or have a current device re-calibrated. The calibration must be in accordance with CDC standards based on the Thermometer Calibration Certificate Checklist.

If the provider submits a calibration certificate that does not meet CDC standards for calibration, the

compliance issue will remain unresolved until proper compliance resolution has been received by the Immunization Unit. This could result in the re-calibration of a device that has just been calibrated, or the purchase of a new device after a new device was just purchased.

Clarification has been distributed to providers regarding CDC requirements for thermometer calibration via the July 2013 Jab-N-Gab, during the VFC Compliance Site Visits, teleconference, and the Thermometer Calibration Certificate Checklist (located on the Site Visit Information webpage of the

Immunization Unit website at www.immunizewyoming.com).

Providers are expected to meet these requirements for any new or re-calibrated devices. Compliance findings that are not resolved by the established deadline specified on the site visit closure letter will result in vaccine orders being suspended until verification of the proper compliance resolution has been received by the Immunization Unit.

For assistance with this process please contact Kristy Westfall, Quality and Compliance Specialist at 307-777-6519 or kristy.westfall1@wyo.gov.



As of August 1, 2013, any new thermometer purchase or calibration must meet the requirements in the Calibration Certificate Checklist. Providers are also encouraged to reference the Thermometer Buying Guidelines. Providers that purchase or re-calibrate a thermometer that does not meet the requirements will have to take necessary action to be compliant, including purchasing a new thermometer or re-calibrating again.



WyIR Inventory Reconciliation: Inactivating "0" Lot numbers

By LaChel May

It was discovered within the WyIR, if a user inactivated a Lot Number which had "0" doses, **before** they had placed that month's vaccine order, the doses administered total would not carry over into the "doses administered field" on the Vaccine Order Screen.

Example: Happy Healthcare has two doses of Dtap vaccine on September 29th. By September 30th the two doses of Dtap have been used. Susie Smiles is now reconciling her inventory before placing the Monthly Vaccine Order for October. Looking over her reconciliation screen the

Dtap shows "0".

Susie should inactivate the Lot Number **after** the vaccine order is placed. This will ensure that the two doses of Dtap will show up in the Dtap "doses administered totals" for September.

Susie has placed the October vaccine order and is now pulling up the reconciliation screen, under the Lot Number link. She then clicks on the square in correlation with the "0" lot number, under the "inactive" heading. A green check mark will appear in the square, she then clicks on the "save" button.

The "0" lot number has now been removed from the reconciliation screen.

Remember: All "0" Lot Numbers are to be made "Inactive" after each month's vaccine order has been placed. This will ensure that Providers' inventory screens will reflect the most current vaccine "on -hand" and become simpler to view, as well as, easier to manage inventory totals.

Questions: Please contact LaChel May, 307-777-8503 or via email: lachel.may@wyo.gov.



Sanofi Pasteur FluZone® NDC and Labeling Update

By Jude Alden

The following update was released by Sanofi Pasteur in July 2013:

"As a valued customer, I am writing to inform you of a change that Sanofi Pasteur will be making to our National Drug Codes (NDC) and labeling. In order to comply with the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) regulations, Sanofi Pasteur will establish a new NDC for the vial and syringe (unit-of-use) for each of our vaccine and therapeutic brands. We will begin converting to these new codes mid-year 2013 upon the approval of the 2013-2014 Fluzone® (Influenza Virus Vaccine) formulation and will continue the process throughout 2014.

The NDC is a unique, three-segment number which serves as a universal product identifier for human drugs. Currently, Sanofi Pasteur products utilize the same NDC on the outer carton (unit-of-sale) as the unit-of-use. Moving forward, the FDA is

requiring all manufacturers to assign unique NDCs for the unit-of-sale and unit-of-use.

To help limit the impact on providers, Sanofi Pasteur will be maintaining the current NDC on the unit-of-sale, while creating new NDCs for our product's unit-of-use.

CPT Codes will continue to be the primary code for submission of vaccine claims. Since most payers do not require the use of an NDC when submitting for vaccine claims, there should be limited impact to coding and billing for your practice. To help ensure that payers are aware of all NDCs associated with our products, Sanofi Pasteur is working with pricing publications such as First Data Bank® and MediSpan® to include the NDCs for both the unit-of-sale and unit-of-use. We will also request that payer payment systems recognize and accept all NDCs.

Ordering on VaccineShoppe.com® will remain the same.

The only potential difference you may experience is a change in the last 2 digits of the NDC written in a patient record, if documenting the NDC on the unit-of-use is part of your immunization process.

Should you have questions or require additional information, please contact your Vaccine Specialist, our Customer Account Representatives, or our Reimbursement Support Services at **1-800-VACCINE** (1-800-822-2463). Please visit www.vaccineshoppe.com/NDC for additional resources and continual updates on the status of each product's NDC change."

A copy of this letter can be found on the Flu Season 2013-2014 webpage found at www.immunizewyoming.com.



Upcoming Changes to VOMS

By Jude Alden

A new version of the WyIR will soon be released and there will be some positive changes to VOMS that will assist providers in managing their VFC/WyVIP vaccine inventory.

Reconcile Inventory Screen

1. Category and Reason

When providers go to reconcile their inventory before every order or transfer, they will see a category and a reason to assist them in selecting the most accurate reason for reconciliation.

2. Inventory Last Submitted

Providers will see an Inventory Last Submitted date at the bottom of the

reconcile inventory screen. This will appear in **RED** if it has been more than 30 days since the inventory has been reconciled. Providers must reconcile inventory every 30 days, before every vaccine order and before every vaccine transfer.

3. Expired Vaccines

Vaccines that have expired will be highlighted in **RED** and should be reconciled following disposal or return to McKesson.

4. Expires in 30 days or less

Vaccines that will expire in 30 days or less will be highlighted in **YELLOW**. Providers should make every effort

to prevent vaccine waste.

5. Inventory: Save vs. Submit

Provider inventory will have the capability to be saved prior to submission. Similar to vaccine orders, when inventory is saved it is not reported to the Immunization Unit or is carried over to the vaccine order or transfer. Providers must **SUBMIT** inventory every 30 days before vaccine orders and transfers.

A notification will be posted on the WyIR home page when the new version is released. Contact us at 307-777-8503 if you have questions about these new functions.



Immunization Report Card

By Val Koch, RN, Clinical Quality and Compliance Specialist

The National Immunization Survey (NIS) and the NIS-Teen for 2012 have been published. These are annual, random telephone surveys used to monitor vaccination coverage among U.S. children 19-35 months old and adolescents 13-17 years old. For the 2012 childhood survey, children born between January 2009 and May 2011 were assessed. Overall, Wyoming had many areas of improvement including an exciting jump in almost 17% increase for our rotavirus immunization coverage.

Looking at the chart to the right, we can see there are many areas where VFC/WyVIP providers are doing a great job ensuring their patients are immunized. The information also shows us that there are still some areas that we are continuing to struggle. The coverage rate for Hepatitis A vaccine in Wyoming is low and continuing to decrease. We also see that HPV vaccination coverage is still a struggle, as it is nationwide.

Overall, we're pleased with the progress VFC/WyVIP providers are making in immunization coverage. There are many areas in which we are above the Healthy People 2020 goal of 80-90% immunization coverage. We look forward to working closely with providers to assist in improving these rates.

The complete NIS or NIS-Teen data can be found at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/stats-surv/imz-coverage.htm

Vaccine	New 2012 Rate	Change from 2011-2012	National Average
Primary Vaccines (Age 19-35 Months)			
3+ DTaP	95.3%	+5.7%	94.3%
4+ DTaP	79.4%	+3.9%	82.5%
3+ Polio	94.4%	+7.6%	92.8%
1+ MMR	91.2%	+5.6%	90.8%
HIB (Full Series)	79.8%	+10.2%	80.9%
Hep B Birth Dose	64.8%	-6.0%	71.6%
3+ Hep B	91.4%	+9.2%	89.7%
1+ Varicella	88.0%	+1.2%	90.2%
3+ PCV	91.4%	+3.2%	92.3%
4+ PCV	81.7%	+7.5%	81.9%
Rotavirus	69.1%	+16.9%	68.6%
1+ Hep A	56.2%	-11.1%	81.5%
2+ Hep A	32.3%	-13%	53%
4:3:1:3:3:1:4 series	67.2%	+3.3%	68.4%
Adolescent Vaccines (Age 13-17)			
Td/Tdap	88.4%	-2.4%	88.5%
1+ MenACWY	59%	-1.8%	74%
HPV 3 dose Completion (female)	59.7%	-8.4%	66.7%
1+ HPV (male)	11.2%	NA	20.8%



Kinrix® = Kindergarten

By Val Koch, RN, Clinical Quality and Compliance Specialist

We have recently had an increase in vaccine administration errors related to Kinrix® vaccine. When considering the appropriate age group for this vaccine, think of **KIN**-rix as **KIN**-ergarten. Kinrix® is licensed ONLY for the 5th dose of DTaP and the 4th dose of IPV in children ages 4 through 6 years of age. Kinrix® should not be used with the catch up schedule for doses 1-4 of DTaP or

doses 1-3 of IPV, nor should it be used in children younger than 4 years of age. Always keep in mind the "rights of medication administration". The word "right" implies "correct" - the correct steps to ensuring successful administration.

- Right #1- the right patient
- Right #2- the right vaccine
- Right #3- the right time

- Right #4- the right dosage
- Right #5- the right route
- Right #6- the right site
- Right #7- the right documentation

Staff education and labeling of vaccine boxes with appropriate ages can also help decrease these vaccine administration errors.



WyIR Update

By John Anderson, M.A.



System Bug related to user passwords - "HDWY-631 - Null Pointer Exception"

After changing password settings 08/15 as required under the new HIPAA policies, an unforeseen system bug appeared. This bug would not allow users to request a password reset, nor allow the automatically generated email to be sent informing new users of their username along with a link to create their password. This bug has unfortunately forced the WyIR staff to undertake a temporary manual password authentication process. Instead of emails coming from the WyIR Scheduler, as they had prior to the bug appearing, which informed users of their username and password, it will now come from Kathy Strang or myself. Users will be forced to change their password to a user-created password after logging back in. Unfortunately, there is not yet a time table established for a fix, and we appreciate your patience in getting the accounts reactivated.

School RN Access

Under the modifications to the Omnibus Rule, which implements changes to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, access requirements for schools have become more rigorous. We are in consultation with the HIPAA compliance office and Senior Administration regarding solutions to the new requirements. We do not yet

know what this will look like for school nurses or how it will impact providers. We are awaiting further guidance from HIPAA and will keep everyone up to date as we know more.

Web Browser upgrade required!

The 5.13.8 release on 8/31, which is currently being tested, will be the last release that contains code to support Internet Explorer 7 (IE7). For end users using IE7 or below, they may experience unexpected behavior and not all functionality will work. The recommendation for those users will be to upgrade their browser to IE8 or above. These issues that result from using an older version of IE will not be logged as bugs in STC's help desk queue. Please coordinate the latest browser installation with your IT department in order to ensure successful functionality when using the WyIR.

WyIR Vaccine Cheat Sheet

With the new flu formulations now in provider's offices, we have updated and posted the latest and greatest WyIR Vaccine Cheat Sheet under the Document Center in the WyIR and the WyIR portion of the Immunization Unit webpage.

WyIR Forecast - temporary bug related to new influenza formulations

Given the revised vaccine flu formulations, we are pending an update regarding the forecast with the new flu formulations configured.

We are anticipating an update from ETS soon, and will let users know when the forecast patch has been applied. For now, users may experience an error message when administering the newer flu formulations. Once the patch is in place, the errors will disappear - until then, the error warning will appear. As always, please let us know when you see something occur contrary to what is expected - including error messages related to influenza. Thanks in advance for your patience while we get the updated forecast in place.

Questions about the WyIR can be directed to John Anderson, WyIR Project Coordinator at john.anderson@wyo.gov or 1-800-599-9754.



NEVER share usernames or passwords!

Department of Health

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For comments or suggestions regarding the
Jab and Gab Newsletter, please contact the
Newsletter Editor at
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WASTE REPORT Quarter 3

Wasted and Disposed

Drawn up, not used: \$2,191.31

Wasted (dropped, spilled):
\$3,715.94

Wasted and Returned

Expired: \$19,228.201

Cold Chain/Stored Improperly:
\$5,758.05

TOTAL WASTE

Cost: \$30,893.50

**Influenza vaccines are not included
in these numbers.*

Bi-Monthly Teleconference for all VFC/WYVIP Providers:

Nov. 20, 2013 @ 12:15 p.m.

Telephone Number:

877-278-8686

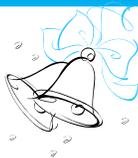
(toll-free)

Pass code: 309491





Please join the Immunization Unit in wishing
Jude and her new husband, Kelly, a long and happy
marriage.



Please note Jude's name change from Serrano to Alden and update your
address book to reflect her new email address at jude.alden@wyo.gov.

2014 Regional Training Survey

The Immunization Unit has begun training for the 2014 Regional Training. To ensure that we offer a unique and valuable education experience we are seeking input from all VFC/WyVIP Providers. Please complete the survey found at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Plan2014RegTrng>

no later than **October 11, 2013.**

A direct link can also be found on our website under "Latest News."

Are You Having a Flu Clinic?

Spread the word about your upcoming flu clinic by having it posted on the Immunization Unit webpage. Complete the Flu Clinic Web Posting Form found on the [Flu Season 2013-2014](#) webpage.

If you are interested in reserving the FLU BUG for your clinic please contact Karoleigh Cassel at 307-777-7621.

Influenza Resources

The following links can be found on the Flu Season 2013-2014 webpage.

- Flu Clinics in Wyoming
- Flu Clinics List from the American Lung Association
- Flu.gov
- Influenza Vaccine Information Statements
- Flu Materials.

FIGHT THE FLU

1. Stay home when you're sick
2. Wash hands often
3. Cover your cough
4. GET IMMUNIZED!



**OFFICIAL
FLU FIGHTER**