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Date: November 13, 2012

To: VFC Program Providers

From: VFC Program

RE: ProQuad (MMRV) Vaccine Availability

Effective November 13, 2012, VFC Program providers may begin placing vaccine orders for ProQuad (MMRV) vaccine. When placing vaccine orders it is important not to overestimate your need for MMRV vaccine. **MMRV vaccine orders should be placed during the organization's NEXT established monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly economic order quantity (EOQ). When placing orders for MMRV, review vaccine inventory to identify all other vaccines needed. Providers should monitor existing MMR and Varicella vaccine inventory to ensure vaccine is not wasted or allowed to expire.**

**MMRV Vaccine Recommendations:**

On May 7, 2010, CDC issued new recommendations for the use of combination MMRV vaccine. Prior to issuing these recommendations, ACIP reviewed results of post-licensure studies that suggest during the 5-12 day post-vaccination period, approximately one additional febrile seizure occurred among every 2,600 children ages 12 through 23 months vaccinated with a first dose of MMRV vaccine compared with children in the same age group vaccinated with separate first doses of MMR vaccine and varicella vaccine administered during a single office visit.

The summary of the recommendations for use of MMRV vaccine are as follows:

- The routinely recommended ages for measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella vaccination continue to be age 12 through 15 months for the first dose and age 4 through 6 years for the second dose.
- For the first dose of measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella vaccines at age 12 through 47 months, providers may use either measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine and varicella vaccine separately or MMRV combination vaccine. Providers who are considering administering MMRV vaccine should discuss the benefits and risks of both vaccination options with the parents or caregivers.
- For the second dose of measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella vaccines at any age (15 months through 12 years) and for the first dose at age 48 months and older, use of MMRV vaccine generally is preferred over separate injections of its equivalent component vaccines (i.e., MMR vaccine and varicella vaccine).
- A personal or family (i.e., sibling or parent) history of seizures of any etiology (i.e., cause) is a precaution for MMRV vaccination, and such children generally should be vaccinated with separate MMR and varicella vaccine.

The complete recommendations for the use of MMRV vaccine are available at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr5903.pdf>

Questions regarding MMRV vaccine ordering may be directed to Tina Patterson or Janean Iddings at 1-800-831-6293, extensions 4 and 5 respectively.