Iowa Department of Public Health
Promoting and Protecting the Health of Iowans

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Date: **March 11, 2010**

To: **Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program Providers**

From: **VFC Program**

RE: **13-Valent Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV13)**

On February 24, 2010, The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved Pfizer's 13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV13), PCV13 is indicated for active immunization of children to prevent invasive disease caused by Streptococcus pneumonia. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended changes to the immunization schedule to incorporate the newly approved vaccine. The ACIP recommends using PCV13 to immunize infants and toddlers, as well as in children 60 through 71 months with underlying medical conditions that increase their risk of pneumococcal disease or complications. PCV13 is also recommended as supplemental dose for children through 59 months of age who have completed the age appropriate series of 7-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV7). Children who have started their immunization series with PCV7 should complete their series by switching to PCV13 at any point in the schedule.

During this transition if only PCV7 is available in the clinic unvaccinated and incompletely vaccinated children should receive PCV7. These children should complete the series with PCV13 at subsequent visits. When PCV13 is available in the clinic, unvaccinated and incompletely vaccinated children should receive PCV13 (not PCV7). Active recall is not recommended for children for whom the supplemental PCV13 dose is recommended. The supplemental dose should be given at a subsequent visit.

Effective immediately PCV13 is available for ordering through the VFC program. CDC expects to release PCV13 for distribution on March 18, 2010. Existing orders for PCV7 will be held and transitioned to PCV13 automatically by the Immunization Program.

Attached is the VFC Vaccine Summary for PCV13, which includes vaccine specific information regarding the recommended schedule, vaccine storage and handling and vaccine administration.

PCV7 inventory in IRIS that will no longer be used due to the release of PCV13 should be removed from the clinic's inventory using the 'expired' reason code. Please be sure all IRIS data entry is up to date prior to removing these doses from IRIS inventory. For any questions regarding the IRIS Program contact the IRIS Help Desk at 800-374-3958.

The Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) **"**Licensure of a 13-Valent Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV13) and Recommendations for Use Among Children, Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), 2010 is available at http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5909a2.htm?s_cid=mm5909a2_e .

If you have questions regarding the implementation of PCV13 call the VFC Program at 1-800-831-6293, ext. 4.