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

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Date: March 25, 2010

To: Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program Provider

From: Vaccines for Children Program

RE: Hib Vaccine Allocations

Effective April 1, 2010, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention will remove the Hib vaccine allocation for the Iowa Vaccines for Children Program which will allow for the routine ordering of all Hib containing vaccines. The Hib vaccine allocations date back to December 19, 2007, when manufacturing issues resulted in the temporary deferral of administering the routine Hib vaccine booster dose.

The Hib shortage may have required healthcare providers to switch to other Hib containing vaccines to complete the primary Hib series. It is important when placing vaccine orders of Hib containing vaccine to consider current inventory of both single antigen and combination Hib products to alleviate vaccine wastage. IDPH will monitor vaccine orders to assure all Hib containing vaccines currently in inventory will be utilized and not wasted.

On September 18, 2009, the CDC recommended recall of children with a deferred booster dose of Hib vaccine. The Immunization Program has issued a final extension of the Hib waiver through June 30, 2010, to allow children from being excluded from licensed childcare centers because of their inability to obtain the final dose of Hib vaccine. The wavier can be viewed at:
http://www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/common/pdf/immunization/hib_waiver.pdf .

If you have further questions please contact the Iowa Department of Public Health, Immunization Program at 1-800-831-6293.