



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

Thomas Newton, MPP, REHS
Director

Chester J. Culver
Governor

Patty Judge
Lt. Governor

March 15, 2010

This correspondence is to notify you of the extension of the enclosed waiver to 641 Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) 7.4(1) requiring administration of the final dose of *Haemophilus influenzae* Type b (Hib) vaccine on or after 12 months of age.

The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH), Bureau of Immunization and Tuberculosis is extending a temporary, limited waiver due to the nation-wide shortage of the Hib vaccine. On December 19, 2007, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in consultation with the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), the American Academy of Family Physicians, and the American Academy of Pediatrics, published a recommendation in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) which directed healthcare providers to temporarily defer administering the routine Hib vaccine booster dose at age 12-15 months except to children in specific high risk groups.

This waiver will prevent children from being excluded from licensed childcare centers because of their inability to obtain the final dose of Hib vaccine on or after 12 months of age. This waiver is extended and is applicable to all Iowa children effective from December 19, 2007, through June 30, 2010.

Although supply was sufficient to reinstate the booster dose and begin catch-up vaccination, there was not enough supply to support the immediate recall of all children with deferred booster doses. This waiver will prevent children from being excluded from licensed childcare centers because of their inability to obtain the final dose of Hib vaccine on or after 12 months of age.

While the waiver is in effect it is **not** necessary to complete the Provisional Certificate of Immunization for children unable to receive the final dose of Hib vaccine on or after 12 months of age. It is important for healthcare providers to continue to provide the routine Hib vaccine series and recall children with deferred booster doses.

If you have question regarding this matter please contact the Iowa Immunization Program at 1-800-831-6293.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Callaghan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

Don Callaghan, Chief
Bureau of Immunization and Tuberculosis

cc. Patricia Quinlisk, MD, MPH
Medical Director, State Epidemiologist