

**Iowa Department of Public Health
Division of Acute Disease Prevention & Emergency Response**

**Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program
DTaP/IPV/Hib - Pentacel Vaccine Summary
August 29, 2008**

Iowa Vaccines for Children Program Implementation

Effective October 1, 2008, DTaP/IPV/Hib (Pentacel) vaccine will be available through the Iowa VFC Program.

DTaP/IPV/Hib (Pentacel) Vaccine Recommendations

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) - On June 20, 2008, the FDA approved Pentacel, the combination vaccine that includes DTaP/IPV/Hib vaccines. The FDA approved this vaccine for use in children 2 months through 4 years of age. This vaccine can be used for the primary series and first booster dose (total of four doses).

ACIP - On June 26, 2008, the ACIP provisionally recommended Pentacel vaccine for routine immunization of children 2 months through 4 years of age. The vaccination series can be started in infants as young as 6 weeks of age. (Provisional recommendations are provided by the ACIP but have not been approved by the CDC or the Department of Health and Human Services and have not yet been published in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR). Recommendations become official when they are published in the MMWR.)

VFC Resolution - On June 26, 2008, the ACIP workgroup approved the Pentacel VFC resolution to include children 6 weeks through 4 years of age. Pentacel vaccine is not indicated for children 5 years of age and older.

Recommended Schedule for DTaP/IPV/Hib (Pentacel) Vaccine

- Licensed for use 6 weeks through 4 years of age
- 4 dose series (2, 4, 6, and 15-18 months of age)
- DTaP/IPV component is used to reconstitute ActHIB. Vaccine should be administered immediately after reconstitution.
- Administration/Route: Intramuscular (IM) injection
- 5 dose pack (5 single dose vials of DTaP/IPV, and 5 single dose vials of lyophilized ActHIB)

**Iowa Department of Public Health
Division of Acute Disease Prevention & Emergency Response**

Minimum Age and Intervals for DTaP/IPV/Hib (Pentacel) Vaccine *

Dosage Intervals for Vaccination for Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis Containing Vaccines					
Vaccine	Minimum Age	Minimum interval between doses			
		Dose 1 to 2	Dose 2 to 3	Dose 3 to 4	Dose 4 to 5
DTaP-IPV-HIB	6 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks	6 months (Interval is determined by DTaP vaccine component). Note that both the minimum interval AND age must be met for the fourth dose of DTaP (as Pentacel or any other formulation) to be counted as valid.	NA Maximum age for any dose of Hib containing vaccine is through 4 years of age. Do not administer 5 years of age or older.

*For any combination vaccine the antigen with the longest interval will dictate the vaccine spacing.

Vaccine Storage and Handling

- Store refrigerated at 2° - 8° C, 35° - 46° F
- Do not freeze

IDPH/Immunization Program Recommendations

IDPH, Immunization Program routinely follows and promotes the Recommended Immunization Schedule. Therefore, the Immunization Program will implement the DTaP/IPV/HIB combination vaccine in accordance with the ACIP recommendations and the VFC resolution.

Vaccine Licensure / VFC Implementation

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) provides advice and guidance regarding the most appropriate application of vaccines for effective vaccine preventable disease control. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is responsible for the licensure of vaccines. Upon FDA approval the ACIP convenes and makes decisions on vaccine recommendations. A VFC resolution vote is required for the inclusion of new vaccines into the VFC Program or the modification of existing resolutions. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) then negotiates a contract for the purchase of vaccines. VFC vaccine must be administered according to the guidelines outlined by the ACIP recommendations and VFC resolutions.

CDC allocates individual state VFC funding based upon eligible populations, anticipated vaccine uptake and negotiated federal contract amounts. CDC establishes monthly vaccine allocations for each vaccine. Additional 317 CDC discretionary funds are used to vaccinate underinsured individuals seen at Local Public Health Agencies (LPHAs) who are not eligible under VFC guidelines. Each state determines the vaccine implementation date based upon the above process which is generally four to six months following vaccine licensure.