

Vaccines For Children Replacement Model for Pharmacies



Vaccines for Children (VFC) Overview

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The VFC program is a federal program that provides vaccinations at no cost to children who might not otherwise be able to afford them. In this program, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) buys vaccines at a discounted rate and distributes them to state health departments as well as some local/territorial public health agencies. These agencies then distribute the stock to health centers, physicians offices, pharmacies, and clinics that are enrolled in the program.

For more information on the VFC program and enrollment, contact Diana Taylor at: ditaylor@health.in.gov

Vaccine Replacement Model

We are pleased to introduce a groundbreaking policy designed to enhance vaccine accessibility and streamline administration within large healthcare systems, including hospitals and pharmacies. This Replacement Model Policy offers providers the opportunity to administer private vaccines to VFC patients, with the ability to subsequently order VFC stock to reimburse these doses.

At the heart of this model lies the flexibility it provides to providers. They can administer private vaccines to VFC patients and then seamlessly replenish their stock by ordering VFC doses. This innovative approach not only ensures comprehensive immunization coverage for all patients but also optimizes the utilization of available resources.

To participate in this program, providers must demonstrate the financial capacity to maintain a vaccine inventory that adequately covers both private and VFC patients. Additionally, they must implement a robust electronic system for recording patient eligibility at each immunization encounter, ensuring accurate documentation for reimbursement purposes.

By embracing this policy, providers can effectively navigate the complexities of vaccine procurement and administration, ultimately improving healthcare delivery and promoting public health outcomes.

Benefits of Replacement Model

- Each year, children 11 to 18 years of age will have access to vaccinations when their doctors office is closed or there is a long wait for appointment.
- Approved providers would not need to maintain separate stocks of public and private vaccines.

At a Glance

- Reduces referrals of children from private providers to state health departments for vaccination.
- Saves VFC-enrolled providers out-of-pocket expenses for vaccines.
- VFC benefits an estimated 40 million children.

For additional information, visit in.gov/health/immunization or contact us at immunize@health.in.gov or 1 (800) 701-0704.

