Summary of Vaccines for Children Program Addendums – October 2023

On October 18, 2023, CDC shared two addendums to the *2023-2024 VFC Operations Guide*. Providers can view each addendum on the <u>CDC's Vaccines for Children web page</u> (see content at the top).

VFC Operation Guide COVID Addendum

Inventory

- VFC providers have until March 31, 2024, to meet the private inventory requirement for COVID-19 vaccines. This is a time-limited ramp-up period.
- Important notes
 - VFC providers are not required to meet the private inventory minimum requirements for COVID-19 vaccine if they do not intend to vaccinate their private pay patients.
 - The private inventory requirement for COVID-19 vaccines does not apply to VFC providers who serve only VFC-eligible patients.
 - Providers who do not maintain a private COVID-19 stock should share information with their privately insured patients about other ways to access COVID-19 vaccine in their areas (e.g., local public health clinics and pharmacies).
- If COVID-19 demand is low, providers may ask the Georgia Immunization Program about ordering the minimum package size for their VFC patients.

Bi-directional Borrowing

- Providers may only borrow COVID-19 vaccine if the provider maintains private stock of COVID-19 vaccines, there is an order in process, and the provider is awaiting arrival of this shipment.
- Providers must repay any borrowed COVID-19 vaccine (dose for dose) within one month and administer to the appropriate population.
- Providers must complete and submit a vaccine borrowing report to the Georgia Immunization Program.

Site Visits

- The Georgia Immunization Program is required by CDC to conduct all site visits in-person. This includes compliance, enrollment, and unannounced storage and handling.
- At this time, the only exception for an in-person site visit is medium or high COVID-19 hospitalization rates.

VFC Operation Guide Nirsevimab Addendum

Inventory

- VFC providers have until August 1, 2024, to meet the private inventory requirement for nirsevimab. This is a time-limited ramp-up period.
- Important notes
 - VFC providers are not required to meet the private inventory requirements for nirsevimab if they do not intend to vaccinate their private pay patients.
 - The private inventory requirement for nirsevimab does not apply to VFC providers who serve only VFC-eligible patients.
 - Providers who do not maintain a private nirsevimab stock should explore if other innetwork insurance options are available for their privately insured patients to access

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nirsevimab in their areas (e.g., another local in-network practice or system that does have private inventory of nirsevimab, FQHC, RHC).

• If nirsevimab demand is low, providers may ask the Georgia Immunization Program about ordering the minimum packaging for their VFC patients.

Bi-directional Borrowing

- Providers may only borrow nirsevimab if the provider maintains private stock of nirsevimab, there is an order in process, and the provider is awaiting arrival of this shipment.
- Providers must repay any borrowed nirsevimab (dose for dose) within one month or after every 5 borrowed doses and administer to the appropriate population.
- Providers must complete and submit a vaccine borrowing report to the Georgia Immunization Program.