

# Wisconsin Vaccines for Children Program

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# Topics to be Covered

- Changes to the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program
- VFC site visits
- Vaccine ordering
- New forms and procedures
- Vaccine wastage
- Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR)
- Staff changes

# Status of VFC Program in Wisconsin

- The network consists of 750 provider sites throughout Wisconsin who participate in the VFC program.
- In 2017, the program distributed more than \$44 million worth of vaccine for eligible children.
- In 2016, there were over 604,000 eligible children in Wisconsin.
- In 2016–2017, approximately 204,000 doses of flu vaccine were distributed.

# 2018 Changes to VFC

# Digital Data Logger (DDL)

- This is the most impactful change to VFC in years.
- It is required for all VFC providers as of January 1, 2018.
- All refrigerators and freezers that store state-supplied vaccine must have a DDL.
- Must have a DDL to be used as a backup.
- No extensions are allowed. DDL use is a federal requirement for all VFC providers.

# Requirements

DDLs must:

- Have the capacity for continuous temperature monitoring and the ability to record and routinely download data weekly.
- Contain an active temperature display that can be easily read from the outside of the storage unit.
- Be set to read and record temperatures every 30 minutes.

# DDL

## Digital Data Logger Guidance from the Wisconsin VFC Program (2018)

Must have:

- An alarm for out-of-range temperatures
- Memory storage for at least 4,000 readings
- Low battery indicator

# Temperature Readings

- VFC providers are required to assess and record minimum and maximum storage unit temperatures at the start of each clinic day.
- Minimum and maximum temperatures should be cleared each morning.
- At this time it is required to do a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading at the end of each day.
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated its [Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit](#).



# VFC Site Visits

# VFC Site Visits

- We continue to conduct VFC site visits (compliance visits) for all VFC-enrolled providers once every 24 months.
- Our average overall score for storage and handling is 95%.
- Our average overall score for all components of the compliance visit is 93%!

# Areas of Noncompliance

- 11 providers did not offer all Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices-recommended vaccines.
- 46 providers did not screen for VFC eligibility.
- 30 providers did not have a backup thermometer.
- 25 providers did not document temperatures.
- 37 providers could not show the certificate of calibration for the thermometers.

# Vaccine Wastage

- Vaccine wastage continues to be a concern.
- In 2017, approximately 34,000 doses of vaccine were returned to McKesson due to inappropriate storage and wastage from over-ordering (or ordering the wrong product).
- The approximate value of these returned vaccines was \$493,000.

# Vaccine Excursion

- Contact manufacturer.
- Request a determination report.
- Complete excursion report (found on our website).
- Contact Ashley Meyer with questions.  
608-266-2346 or [ashley.meyer@wi.gov](mailto:ashley.meyer@wi.gov)

# Vaccine Transfer

- If you have vaccine that won't be used before the expiration date, you should attempt to locate another VFC provider whom you could transfer vaccine to.
- The transfer feature in WIR allows for moving the vaccine and quantity from your inventory to that of the other provider.



Education

# Webinars

- The VFC program began hosting 30 minute open question and answer forums.
- Staff from the VFC program, regional offices, and WIR are available on these calls.
- The next scheduled open forum is scheduled for August 30, from 12:30-1:15 p.m.
- Information will be sent out via our email list.



# Annual Training

In 2017, all providers were required to view two modules of the CDC's "You Call The Shots" training:

- VFC
- Vaccine Storage and Handling

# Annual Training

- The 2018 training requirement will be to complete one module of the CDC's "You Call The Shots" series which will be the Vaccine Storage and Handling module.
- All primary and backup VFC coordinators at each site (including satellite sites) must complete the training and submit the certificates.
- The due date is September 14, 2018. Send both the primary and backup's together, with PIN included.

# Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR)

# WIR

- The dose-level eligibility requirement of the VFC program was announced in 2016.
- Contact the WIR Help Desk if you have questions: 608-266-9691 or [dhswirhelp@wi.gov](mailto:dhswirhelp@wi.gov).

# WIR

- WIR can support inventory management.
- Discuss with your clinical management and IT staff if this is possible for your EHR.
- WIR offers inventory reports.

# Staff Changes

Contact Lynette Hanson, the VFC coordinator, at 608-267-5148 or [lynette.hanson@wi.gov](mailto:lynette.hanson@wi.gov) for:

- Requirements and policies.
- Re-enrollment questions.
- Deadlines.

# Staff Changes

Ashley Meyer joined the VFC program in October 2017. Contact her at 608-266-2346 or [ashley.meyer@wi.gov](mailto:ashley.meyer@wi.gov) for:

- Vaccine order questions.
- Processing vaccine returns.
- Vaccine excursion questions.

# Staff Changes

- Alexandria Cull (VFC AFIX site monitor) left the VFC program in September 2017.
- Ellen Ehlers has joined the VFC program and will be conducting compliance visits and AFIX visits in the Southern Region.
- Ellen can be reached at [ellen.ehlers@wi.gov](mailto:ellen.ehlers@wi.gov) or by calling 608-266-9823.



# Staff Changes

- Monica Thakur
  - Monica filled the position vacated by Cathy Edwards and will serve as a resource for the Southeastern region. She is located at the Southeastern Regional Office in Milwaukee and can be reached at [Monica.Thakur@wi.gov](mailto:Monica.Thakur@wi.gov) or 414-227-3995.

# Immunization Advisors

Susan Nelson, NE Regional Office (Green Bay)

[SusanL.Nelson@wi.gov](mailto:SusanL.Nelson@wi.gov)

920-448-5231

Wilmot Valhmu, Southern Regional Office (Madison)

[Wilmot.Valhmu@wi.gov](mailto:Wilmot.Valhmu@wi.gov)

608-266-0008

James Zanto, Western Regional Office (Eau Claire)

[James.Zanto@wi.gov](mailto:James.Zanto@wi.gov)

715-836-2499

# Immunization Advisor (cont)

Jacqueline Sills Ware, SE Regional Office (Milw)

[Jacqueline.SillsWare@wi.gov](mailto:Jacqueline.SillsWare@wi.gov)

414-227-4876

Monica Thakur, SE Regional Office (Milw)

[Monica.Thakur@wi.gov](mailto:Monica.Thakur@wi.gov)

414-227-3995

Christie Oestreich, Northern Regional Office  
(Rhineland)

[Christie.Oestreich@wi.gov](mailto:Christie.Oestreich@wi.gov)

715-365-2709

# Compliance Visit Monitors

Fallon Mercier-NE Regional Office (Green Bay)

[Fallon.Mercier@wi.gov](mailto:Fallon.Mercier@wi.gov)

920-448-4802

Kristin Weber, SE Regional Office (Milwaukee)

[Kristin.Weber@wi.gov](mailto:Kristin.Weber@wi.gov)

414-477-4961

# Compliance Visit Monitors (cont)

Karen Stewart, SE Regional Office, Milwaukee

[KarenA.Stewart@wi.gov](mailto:KarenA.Stewart@wi.gov)

414-227-4921

Ellen Ehlers, Southern Regional Office, Madison

[Ellen.Ehlers@wi.gov](mailto:Ellen.Ehlers@wi.gov)

608-266-9823

# New Forms

Department of Health Services:

- Wasted Vaccine Record – [F02328](#)
- VFC Change of Information – [F02329](#)

Both of these forms can be found on our website.

# NEXT UP!

Melanie (Bird) Malinowski  
VFC/WIR Data Quality Analyst