

**Important Message**

1 message

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## General Information

### April VFC Updates

#### ***Purchasing Stand-Alone Freezer Units***

There are only two requirements for purchasing a VFC approved stand-alone freezer. These are:

1. It has a thermostat that can be adjusted to maintain the VFC required temperature range.
2. It can hold the provider's maximum annual frozen vaccine order without touching the walls of the unit.

As a reminder, all VFC providers are required to have a separate stand-alone freezer by June 30, 2016.

#### ***Installing New Stand-Alone Units within Florida SHOTS***

1. Record five days of in range temperatures manually on paper before storing vaccine in the unit or adding the unit to Florida SHOTS. Send this documentation as an attachment to the VFC Office by emailing it to FloridaVFC@flhealth.gov. Please ensure the email subject line includes "site PIN number and Manual Temperatures for New Unit".
2. After five days of good temperatures are recorded, go into Florida SHOTS and change the Identifier for the old unit by adding "old" to it (ex. 123456-refrigerator old).
3. Put in a thru date on this unit's details under the Temperature Logs Menu item to remove it from service.
4. Add a new unit using the previous identifier that matched your LogTag (123456-refrigerator).
5. Contact the VFC Program Office or your Immunization Area Consultant to set your new unit's file upload import format.

#### ***Uploading Temperature Files***

Uploading temperature data files is now a requirement. Each VFC site should upload a temperature file at a minimum once a week. The VFC Program Office can give you manual rights for a short grace period if you are having issues with your data logger software or uploading files to Florida SHOTS.

The VFC Program **does know** which providers are not currently uploading temperature data and have communicated this information to the Immunization Section Area Consultants. Please work to ensure your VFC site is uploading temperatures into Florida SHOTS with no dates missing. Ensuring this information is in Florida SHOTS keeps your ordering process smooth and efficient.

#### ***Reporting Excursions***

Please contact the VFC Office immediately upon the upload of a file with excursions. The file actually shows the number of excursions it added to a temperature log in red. Communicating the excursions allows you and the VFC office to take action and many times this immediate reaction to the situation keeps the vaccine viable, does not impact a site's ability to order additional vaccine and eliminates any requirement the site would have to replace spoiled vaccine due to an excursion.

#### ***Back-Up Thermometers***

Do you have a back-up certified, calibrated thermometer with a glycol probe? If not, please purchase one immediately. First, it is a current CDC and Florida VFC program requirement. Second, all Florida VFC providers will receive communication in the next 30 days regarding the required steps to recalibrate the state-supplied LogTags. You will need this required back-up thermometer to maintain storage unit temperatures while your LogTag is recalibrated.

**Please REMEMBER that each storage unit tied to your PIN within Florida SHOTS must have a current calibration certificate on file or your site cannot process a Vaccine Order Request!**

**Vaccines Removed from the CDC Pediatric Contract**

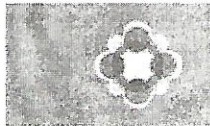
The following vaccines were removed from the CDC Pediatric Contract as of 4/1/16 and will no longer be available for order through the VFC Program

1. Cervarix
2. Gardasil 4

If you have specific questions, contact the VFC Program via email at [FloridaVFC@FLHealth.gov](mailto:FloridaVFC@FLHealth.gov), your assigned VFC Program representative's email or via phone at 1-800-483-2543.

General VFC Program information and forms can be found on our website at <http://www.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/immunization/vaccines-for-children/index.html>.

**\*Blast Communication 4/27/2016\***



**Vaccines for Children**  
Protecting All of Florida's Children.



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