

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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Commissioner



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Immunization Program

TO: All Connecticut Vaccine Program (CVP) Enrolled Provider Sites

FROM: Kathy Kudish *Kathy Kudish* Immunization Program Manager Mick Bolduc *Mick Bolduc* Vaccine Coordinator

DATE: January 19, 2018

SUBJECT: Expansion of influenza vaccine availability for all children 5 through 18 years of age for the remainder of the 2017–2018 flu season

In Connecticut, we continue to see widespread influenza activity and as of yesterday, 21 deaths have been reported linked to influenza this season. The Department of Public Health (DPH) urges public and private sector providers of vaccine to renew their efforts to vaccinate people against influenza. Renewed vaccination efforts could still have an impact on reducing hospitalizations and deaths due to influenza.

As CVP influenza vaccine appears to be in adequate supply, in the interest of vaccinating as many children as possible, the Connecticut Vaccine Program (CVP) is temporarily expanding the availability of influenza vaccine to include all privately-insured children age 5 through 18 years for the remainder of the 2017-2018 season. Therefore influenza vaccine will be available through the CVP for all children 6 months through 18 years. All vaccines available through the CVP are quadrivalent formulations.

Below is a list of the flu formulations we currently have in stock:

Vaccine	Package	Age Indications	NDC #
FLULAVAL (GSK)	Single dose syringe	6 months and older	19515-0912-52
FLUZONE (Sanofi)*	Single dose vial	36 months and older	49281-0417-10
FLUZONE (Sanofi)*	Single dose syringe	6-35 months	49281-0517-25

*Supply is limited on the Fluzone (Sanofi) products.



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Health care providers enrolled in the CVP can place their vaccine orders by submitting a vaccine order form by fax to (860) 509-8371, or by email to: dph.immunizations@ct.gov. Vaccine orders will be processed as soon as possible.

Vaccinating people against seasonal influenza is a joint effort between private providers and community immunizers. DPH is working with our partners throughout the state to identify unmet needs for influenza vaccine. Currently, influenza vaccine is still available through pharmacies, although the availability varies from day-to-day and pharmacists can only provide flu shots for persons aged 18 years and older. Local health departments and community health centers continue to vaccinate children and others in need.

Providers who are interested in purchasing seasonal influenza vaccine for their patients who are older than 18 years of age are encouraged to consult the national website providing updated information on vaccine availability through manufacturers and distributors:

<http://www.preventinfluenza.org/ivats/>.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) also provides guidance for health care providers who are interested in selling, purchasing or trading influenza vaccine to another health care provider in need of vaccine:

http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/vaccination/reallocating_influenza.htm.

Information on influenza surveillance in Connecticut is updated weekly, and is available at

<http://portal.ct.gov/dph/Infectious-Diseases/Flu/Influenza-Surveillance-and-Statistics>.

If you have any questions please contact Mick Bolduc, Vaccine Coordinator for the Connecticut Vaccine Program at 860-509-7940 or michael.bolduc@ct.gov.