

From: Margaret T. Donnelly, Director, MO Dept of Health & Senior Services
Through: Kansas City, Missouri Health Department
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Subject: **Reinstatement Of *Haemophilus influenzae* Type B (Hib) Booster Dose**



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Effective immediately, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in consultation with the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), and American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), is recommending reinstatement of the booster dose of *Haemophilus influenzae* Type B (Hib) vaccine for children 12 to 15 months who have completed the primary series. Production of Merck Hib vaccine products is still suspended. However, two other Hib-containing vaccines, ActHIB and Pentacel, manufactured by Sanofi-Pasteur are available for use. Sufficient vaccine will be available to administer the primary series at 2, 4, and 6 months and a booster dose on time. Older children for whom the booster dose was deferred should receive their Hib booster dose at the **next routinely scheduled visit** or medical encounter. Although supply is sufficient to reinstate the booster dose and begin catch-up vaccination, supply is not sufficient to support a mass notification process to contact all children with deferred Hib booster doses. When additional Hib-containing vaccine becomes available to support active recall, CDC and the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program will communicate this information to providers.

- Providers with questions about their privately purchased supplies of monovalent Hib Vaccine (ActHIB) or DTaP-IPV/Hib (Pentacel) should contact Sanofi Pasteur's customer service department (800-822-2463).
- Providers with questions regarding VFC vaccine orders should contact their VFC Program Liaison (800-219-3224).
- VFC providers should only place orders for a 4-6 week supply of vaccine, due to the fact that the VFC Program will continue to receive a monthly allotment of Hib-containing vaccine from CDC.
- Providers should order ActHIB vaccine for children who have already received 4 doses of DTaP. Providers are not encouraged to give Pentacel unless a child needs all components of the combination vaccine. However, a mismatch might exist between patient vaccination needs and the available stock of different vaccine formulations (combination products versus single-antigen vaccines).
- If DTaP-IPV/Hib (Pentacel) is the **ONLY** Hib-containing vaccine available, this combination product can be used to complete the series of Hib vaccination, even if the child already has received all the necessary doses of DTaP and IPV.

For your information, a recent Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) article entitled "Updated Recommendations for Use of *Haemophilus influenzae* Type b (Hib) Vaccine: Reinstatement of the Booster Dose at Ages 12-15 Months" can be accessed at http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5824a5.htm?s_cid=mm5824a15e.

Additional information for providers and patients is expected to be available from CDC by mid-July at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vac-gen/shortages/default.htm>. Questions should be directed to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services' (DHSS') Bureau of Immunization Assessment and Assurance at (573) 751-6124 or (800) 219-3224.