



March 28, 2017

What's New: Newsletter Highlighting Key Information and Changes Concerning Immunizations in Philadelphia

Storage and Handling

1. New in-range temperatures for refrigerated vaccines (Fahrenheit) are 36 to 46 degrees (F). The new Fahrenheit temperature range aligns with guidance from the United States Pharmacopeia (USP), a scientific organization that sets federally recognized quality standards for food and drugs. You can find [more information here](#).
2. How to use VFC and VFAAR temperature logs: The Immunization Program has re-designed the official temperature logs to comply with new CDC requirements. The temperature log now captures minimum/maximum daily readings. The temperature log also reflects the new vaccine storage temperatures: (36 degrees to 46 degrees F°). You can find copies of the [new temperature logs here](#).
3. Minimum and maximum temperatures must be taken daily. With the new temperature logs, minimum and maximum ranges must be documented every day, at the beginning of each day to ensure proper temperature ranges. You can find more information on this [CDC requirement here](#).
4. The VFC/VFARR program is asking all providers to upgrade to the latest version of the Digital Data Loggers (DDL) software, Log Tag Analyzer 2.7 Build 8. For sites that need administrative or IT permission to make these changes, please contact your IT department as soon as possible. If your site does not require special permission to download programs onto your computer, you can follow the prompt to update the software when you open the Log Tag Software. The software is also available online at <http://www.logtagrecorders.com/software/download.php>. The new update will not affect any downloading processes and will not interrupt any daily responsibilities. If you have any questions about this upgrade please contact our Data Logger Specialists at Tempcheck@phila.gov.
5. Digital Data Loggers are continuous storage temperature monitors given to providers to alert them of any problems with their storage units- and not all data loggers are the same:

SUMMARY POINTS

- Storage and handling updates include new temperature log and digital data logger requirements.
- There are now new school vaccination requirements in Pennsylvania requiring schools to exclude students without up to date vaccination documentation within 5 days from the beginning of school.
- Save the date for an online webinar discussing new school immunization requirements on April 5th.
- Vaccine information changes include new dosage recommendations for HPV and Serogroup B Meningococcal and training requirements.
- The Immunization Program has now pushed back enrollment due dates to September/October 2017.



CDC has specific recommendations on what kind of data loggers are suitable for taking temperatures. The CDC recommends DDLs with the following characteristics:

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| I. Detachable probe in a thermal buffered material. | IV. Recommended uncertainty of +/- 0.5° C (+/-1 F). |
| II. Alarm for out-of-range temperatures. | V. Logging interval or reading rate that can be programmed by the user. |
| III. Low-battery indicator. Current, minimum, and maximum temperature indicator. | VI. Current and valid Certificate of Calibration Testing. |

You can find this information on [data logger requirements here](#).

Providers must carry data loggers for not only their main refrigerators/freezers but also must keep an extra data logger as a backup in case a main data logger fails. PDPH will provide all VFC/VFAAR sites with data loggers.

Questions about data loggers can be sent to the Philadelphia Immunization Program at Tempcheck@phila.gov.

6. KIDS Plus IIS will be modified to receive temperature monitoring data from data loggers in the summer of 2017. Providers will be able to upload their data directly into the IIS. Trainings and more information will be released soon.
7. If you have a pharmaceutical grade refrigerator and the manual specifically prohibits the use of water bottles in the unit, then the provider should follow the manual recommendations over the CDC recommendation to install water bottles in a refrigerator unit. You can find more information on this [new requirement here](#).

Vaccine Information

1. The PA Department of Health is now requiring schools to exclude students without up-to-date-vaccination documentation within 5 days from the beginning of school. You can find more information on the [new exclusion rules here](#).
2. VIS changes and versions: It is a requirement of the VFC program for all VISs to be up-to-date at provider offices. You can find the [latest VISs here](#). You can also access VISs in different languages at the [Immunization Action Coalition website here](#).
3. VFAAR Providers are now required to receive an in-service on adult vaccination as part of their on-going training requirement. The in-service provides lunch and **free Continuing Education Credits** to provider offices. To book your in-service, please email [here](#).
4. Human papillomavirus and Serogroup B Meningococcal Vaccine Recommendations: The ACIP has approved a new two-dose recommendation for both HPV-9 and Trumenba (Men B). Providers should be implementing the new recommendation schedule into their clinical practice. You can read the official MMWRS for [HPV](#) and [Trumenba](#) here for further **details and exceptions**.



Human papillomavirus

Population	Recommended number of HPV Vaccine Doses	Recommended interval between doses
Persons initiating HPV vaccination at ages 9 through 14 years, except immunocompromised persons	2	0, 6–12 months
Persons initiating HPV vaccination at ages 15 through 26 years and immunocompromised persons initiating HPV vaccination at ages 9 through 26 years	3	0, 1–2, 6 months

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6549a5.htm>

Serogroup B Meningococcal

Population	Recommended number of MenB Vaccine Doses	Further information
Adolescents and young adults aged 16-23 years. Preferred age is 16-18.	MenB vaccine should either be administered as a 3-dose series of MenB-FHbp or a 2-dose series of MenB-4C. The same vaccine product must be used for all doses.	On the basis of available data and expert opinion, MenB-FHbp or MenB-4C may be administered concomitantly with other vaccines indicated for this age, but at a different anatomic site, if feasible.

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6441a3.htm>

5. The Immunization Program has ordered its VFC influenza product for 2017. Flulaval NDC 19515-0912-52 and Fluzone NDC 49281-0627-15 are the only two products that will be available through VFC. The Flulaval product is a pre-filled syringe that can be used on all patients 6 months and older. You can find the product information sheets for [FluLaval](#) and [Fluzone](#) here.

Immunization Program

1. Immunization Program Changes: New faces are working at the Immunization Program and some old faces have returned. Find out who is working at Immz by checking out our [contact page here](#). You can also find email addresses to main program contacts such as Tempcheck@phila.gov (for storage and handling issues), kidsregistry@phila.gov (for KIDS Plus IIS reporting issues), and dphproviderhelp@phila.gov (training/reconciliation/ordering issues).
2. KIDS Plus IIS is good for more than just data- it's your provider resource central! Before you enter the login portal of the website, you will find links and resources for information relating to the Immunization Program. You can review [program requirements](#), [latest health advisories](#), contacts, projects, and much more! Go to kids.phila.gov for more information.
3. Enrollment Paperwork will now be due in September/October instead of the usual June/July. The Immunization Program will be launching a new KIDS Plus IIS module that allows providers to enter their enrollment information directly into the IIS thus reducing the need for paper forms.