



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE  
Thomas Farley, MD MPH  
*Commissioner*

April 25, 2013

Dear Colleague:

We have just been informed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that the amount of Pediarix<sup>®</sup> (DTaP-IPV-HepB) vaccine available to the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program will be reduced. Since there already is an ongoing shortage of Pentacel<sup>®</sup> (DTaP-IPV-Hib) vaccine, this reduction in the availability of Pediarix means that facilities will need to substitute vaccine component products (i.e., DTaP, Hep B, IPV, and Hib). You may also continue to order Comvax<sup>®</sup> (HepB-Hib) if you are currently ordering this vaccine.

In order to ensure that your pediatric population is fully vaccinated, please adjust your Pediarix VFC vaccine orders to no more than one-half of the "VFC Recommended Quantity by Dose" amount found on the online ordering tool and ensure that the remainder of your order includes the following products: DTaP (Infanrix<sup>®</sup>, GSK or Daptacel<sup>®</sup>, Sanofi Pasteur), IPV (Ipol<sup>®</sup>, Sanofi Pasteur), HepB (Recombivax<sup>®</sup>, Merck or Engerix<sup>®</sup>, GSK), Hib (PedvaxHIB<sup>®</sup>, Merck; ActHIB<sup>®</sup>, Sanofi Pasteur; or Hiberix<sup>®</sup>, GSK) and Comvax<sup>®</sup> (Merck).

Please see the attached letter from GlaxoSmithKline. For questions about VFC orders or for help with placing your vaccine order, please contact the VFC program at 347-396-2405 or email us at [nycimmunize@health.nyc.gov](mailto:nycimmunize@health.nyc.gov). We will continue to keep you informed as we receive additional information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane R. Zucker".

Jane R. Zucker, MD, MSc  
Assistant Commissioner  
Bureau of Immunization