June 5, 2013

Dear Colleague:

We have just been informed that Sanofi Pasteur has made a limited supply of Pentacel® (DTaP-IPV/Hib) available to the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program, and anticipates removal of all restrictions in September 2013. Consequently, we will begin accepting VFC orders for Pentacel. To prevent vaccine wastage, you should continue to use the vaccines you currently have in stock, but you may request up to one-half of the amount of Pentacel that was approved in your pre-shortage (i.e., pre-April 2012) orders.

Please note that orders will be reviewed and adjusted, if necessary, by VFC staff.

Pediarix® (DTaP-IPV-HepB) vaccine remains available in limited supply, and you may continue to order up to one-half the amount displayed in the “VFC Recommended Quantity by Dose” column of the online ordering tool.

The remainder of your VFC order should be comprised of the products for which there are no current or anticipated shortages: DTaP [Infanrix®, GSK or Daptacel®, Sanofi Pasteur], IPV [Ipol®, Sanofi Pasteur], Hib [PedvaxHIB®, Merck; ActHIB®, Sanofi Pasteur; or Hiberix®, GSK] and the combination product HepB-Hib [Comvax®, Merck].

For questions about VFC orders, please contact the VFC program at 347-396-2400 or email us at nycimmunize@health.nyc.gov.

For questions about private vaccine orders, please contact Sanofi Pasteur or your vaccine distributor.

We will continue to keep you informed as we receive additional information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jane R. Zucker, M.D., M.Sc
Assistant Commissioner
Bureau of Immunization
New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene