



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

April 22, 2013

Dear Colleague:

Proper vaccine storage and handling practices are essential to ensuring a safe and effective vaccine supply, which plays a critical part in preventing vaccine-preventable diseases. In order to educate practices about the importance of proper vaccine storage and handling and to promote best practices, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released an excellent Web-based training course, *You Call the Shots: Vaccine Storage and Handling Module*, available at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/youcalltheshots.htm>. The Bureau of Immunization strongly encourages you and your staff involved with vaccine storage and handling to enroll and complete this course as soon as possible.

CME, CNE, CEU, or CECH credit is available upon completion of the module. To receive continuing education credit, or to audit the course for those staff not eligible for credit, participants will first have to register for CDC's *Training and Continuing Education Online* at <http://www2a.cdc.gov/TCEOnline/>. They will then need to re-log in after they complete the course.

In order to reenroll in the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program for 2014 and thereafter, the physician-in-charge, vaccine coordinator, and back-up vaccine coordinator at your facility will be required to complete this course and submit certificates of completion at reenrollment. Certificates must be kept on file at your facility for three years.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the VFC program at 347-396-2400 or e-mail us at nycimmunize@health.nyc.gov. Thank you for helping us to ensure the integrity of the vaccine supply.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

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

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