



Paul R. LePage, Governor Ricker Hamilton, Acting Commissioner

Department of Health and Human Services  
Commissioner's Office  
221 State Street  
11 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011  
Tel.: (207) 287-3707; Fax: (207) 287-3005  
TTY Users: Dial 711 (Maine Relay)

To: Vaccines for Children (VFC) Providers  
From: Maine Immunization Program (MIP)  
Subject: Flu Vaccine, Vaccine Replacement Procedure  
Date: July 12, 2017

### Flu Vaccine Exemption for 2016-2017 flu season

After taking a number of factors into consideration, the Maine Immunization Program (MIP) has made the decision to exempt flu vaccine from the Vaccine Replacement Procedure; this exemption is for the 2016-2017 flu season only. This means any flu vaccine ordered for the 2016-2017 season will not count against your 5% vaccine wastage allowance. We ask that you do your part by reconciling your inventory as soon as possible and returning all expired vaccine to McKesson for excise tax credit within 30 days of reconciliation.

Please note: **100% of influenza vaccine ordered for the 2017-2018 flu season will be subject to the Vaccine Replacement Procedure.** Keep this in mind when ordering your influenza vaccine for the upcoming flu season and only order what you need for 4 to 6 weeks at a time. In addition to your regular quarterly report, a separate Flu Vaccine Report will be sent to providers outlining wastage of the flu vaccine in the 2016-2017; please use these reports to help plan your flu vaccine orders for the 2017-2018 flu season.

For more tips on how to reduce wastage, check out the *Vaccine Replacement Procedure Toolkit*: <https://www1.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/immunization/providers/documents/Toolkit-Final-January-25-2017.pdf>