

Division of

Immunization
Family and Community Health Services
Health Promotion
State Epidemiologist

MEMORANDUM 2015-05

TO: All Vaccine Providers

FROM: Tim Heath

DATE: December 3, 2015

RE: 2016-17 Influenza vaccine

On November 10, 2014 the Department of Health Immunization Program informed providers of the State's decision to only offer vaccine to children eligible for the federal Vaccines for Children (VFC) program beginning on January 1, 2015. At that time, we also indicated that the influenza vaccine would still be available to all children regardless of their VFC eligibility during the 2015-16 influenza season.

Starting with the 2016-17 influenza season, the state will only be providing influenza vaccine for children 18 and under that are eligible for the VFC Program. As a reminder the **VFC eligibility categories** are:

- **Children on Medicaid,**
- **Children without insurance,**
- **Native American/Alaskan Native children,**
- **Underinsured - Children that have insurance that doesn't cover vaccine. These children must receive vaccine at a Rural Health Clinic, Federally Qualified Health Center, or at one of the state's Community Health offices.**

We wanted to make this announcement in advance of the next influenza season to give providers ample time to plan ahead.

If you have any questions you may contact me at 605-773-5323 or by email at tim.heath@state.sd.us.