

TOOLKIT

SECTION 8: ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

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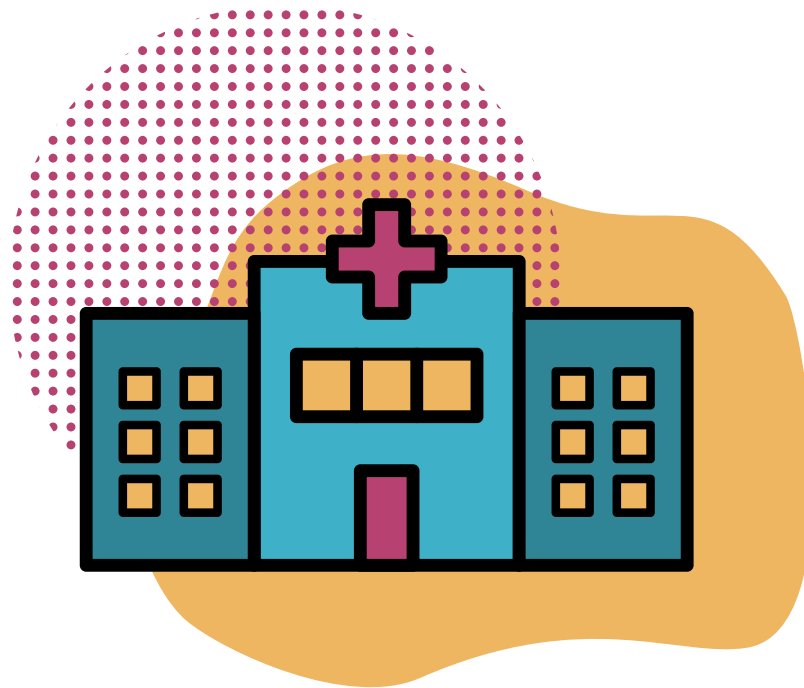
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HOSPITAL SETTINGS & URGENT CARE CENTERS

Hospital settings & urgent care centers: Patients who are not moderately or severely ill and are being discharged from hospital admission, 24-hour observation, or an ED or UC visit may be vaccinated.



HOSPITAL SETTINGS & URGENT CARE CENTERS (CONTINUED)

Best Practices:

- ✓ Assess vaccination status at triage, in the patient's medical history, and during medication reconciliation by asking the patient, checking their electronic medical/health records, and linking with the jurisdiction's immunization information system (IIS)
- ✓ Address vaccine hesitancy with all patients and those who accompany them as part of routine practice
- ✓ Strongly encourage and offer vaccination to all eligible patients and any friends or family who are accompanying them
- ✓ Consider using a pharmacist assigned to the facility to help with medication management to support confirming vaccination status before vaccination
- ✓ Utilize personnel not involved in the direct care of the patient, if available, to administer vaccines if the department is very busy and it would help workflow
- ✓ Offer vaccination services either at their bedside or in special vaccination areas during the discharge process
- ✓ Encourage patients to enroll in V-Safe
- ✓ Document receipt and/or refusal in their chart and IIS
- ✓ Complete and provide a COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card to the patient and print out a list of the vaccination(s) given, particularly for patients being transferred or discharged to rehab, long-term care, or psychiatric facilities
- ✓ Arrange for a second dose appointment, if applicable
- ✓ Place patients in the waiting area for the 15-minute observation period after vaccination is complete to assist in improved flow and reduction of crowding

VACCINES FOR CHILDREN (VFC)

What is the VFC program?

Vaccines for Children (VFC) was created by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide vaccines to all children regardless of ability to pay. Illinois provides the VFC program to children through age 18 who are uninsured, covered by Medicaid, or who are American Indian or Alaskan Native. This program reduces referrals of children from private providers to state health departments for vaccination, therefore keeping them in their medical homes. Additionally, it eliminates or reduces vaccine cost as a barrier to immunizing eligible children, increasing vaccination rates among children. For you as a provider, it saves out-of-pocket expenses for ordering and administering childhood vaccines.



VACCINES FOR CHILDREN (CONTINUED)

How do I register to become a VFC provider?

You can register for the VFC program in I-CARE.

There are two forms required to enroll:

1

The Provider Agreement Form

This lists all staff who have prescribing authority, the VFC coordinator, and a backup VFC coordinator. This form must be signed by the medical director (or equivalent) of the practice. The provider agreement must be completed and signed every year to renew participation.

2

The Provider Population Profile

The Provider Population Profile is a form that describes the patient population of the site. This helps the CDC know how many vaccines to allocate and helps keep track of vaccine coverage in areas and across demographic groups. This must be completed by each VFC-enrolled provider.



VACCINES FOR CHILDREN (CONTINUED)

What is required of VFC providers?

VFC providers are required to provide all Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended vaccines and be open at least four consecutive hours for three days per week. Provider sites must have the capacity to order, properly store, and manage the temperature of all VFC vaccines.

VFC enrolled providers are also eligible for CDC quality assurance visits. The Illinois VFC program conducts visits for enrollment, compliance, storage and handling, and education. The goals of these visits are to identify areas where providers are doing well and areas needing additional support, to identify the educational needs of VFC providers, and to ensure vaccines are properly stored and managed.

Where can I find more information?

Providers can consult the Illinois VFC Provider Manual [here](#) for more information. If you practice in Chicago, you can access the Chicago VFC Provider manual [here](#).

