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## IMMUNIZATION BULLETIN

# CDC Reinstates Hib Booster Dose: No Recall Necessary

### **Background:**

On Dec 13, 2007, Merck recalled some lots of PedvaxHIB and Comvax and production was suspended. As a result, the CDC recommended deferral of the routine Hib booster dose to healthy children 12-15 months. Production of Merck's Hib vaccines is still suspended, but Sanofi Pasteur will increase production of ActHIB and Pentacel (Hib containing vaccines) to allow for reinstatement of the Hib booster dose. Effective immediately the CDC, in consultation with the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), AAFP, and AAP, recommended reinstating immunization of children 12-15 months of age with the Hib booster dose (MMWR 58 (24): on June 26, 2009). To avoid spot shortages while production is increasing, the CDC has recommended to **not recall** children who had the Hib dose deferred, but to vaccinate them with the booster dose at the next scheduled medical visit.

### **ACIP Recommendations**

Effective immediately, the CDC recommends administering the booster dose of Hib vaccine for all children 12-15 months who have completed the primary series.

Children 59 months of age and younger should receive their deferred Hib dose at their next scheduled visit or medical encounter.

Mass recall of deferred children is not recommended because supply is not yet sufficient to support mass vaccinations with Hib. Supplies will be sufficient to support vaccinations of children with the primary series and booster doses and vaccination of deferred children at their next visit.

Due to the deferral of Hib some children may have received various combinations of vaccines resulting in a mismatch between children's immunization needs and available stock. Providers should attempt to minimize extra doses of unneeded vaccines by immunizing children with monovalent Hib vaccine. However if combination vaccines are the only available vaccine, the combination product may be used.

### **Practical Applications for Clinics**

Providers using Pentacel vaccine should ensure they have adequate supplies of monovalent HepB. Providers who switched from Pediarix to Pentacel may need to increase monovalent stocks to ensure children receive adequate coverage of HepB vaccine. (<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/gen/shortages/downloads/eo-hib-hepb-cov.pdf>)

The San Diego Immunization Registry is forecasting for vaccination with the booster dose as well as all other immunizations due.

### **Additional Information**

MMWR Updates Recommendations for Use of Haemophilus influenzae Type B (Hib) Vaccine:

Reinstatement for the Booster Dose at Ages 12-15 Months.

[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5824a5.htm?s\\_cid=mm5824a15e](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5824a5.htm?s_cid=mm5824a15e)

Hib Vaccine – Q&A for Parents about the Return of the Hib “Booster” Dose

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/hib/faqs-return-to-booster-parents.htm>

Please contact SDIB's Immunization Management Consultancy Team with questions or to request consultancy services:

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