



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
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State Health Director

August 6, 2012

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Providers Participating in the North Carolina Immunization Program

**FROM:** Brandon Rector, M.S.W., Vaccine Distribution Manager   
Immunization Branch

**SUBJECT:** Updates on Pentacel® and Daptacel® Vaccine Ordering

The purpose of this memo is to provide updates based on recent information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on the availability of Pentacel® (DTaP, IPV, and Hib) and Daptacel® (DTaP) vaccines. Last spring we announced ordering limitations for these two vaccine products. For details, see the memo dated May 23, 2012 on our web site at: [www.immunize.nc.gov](http://www.immunize.nc.gov) Attached to the May memo you will find CDC guidance for minimizing the impact of these reduced vaccine supplies on your patients.

Because of manufacturing delays, the supply of these vaccines has been below the level needed to fully satisfy market demand. In May, we anticipated that there would be a limited supply of Pentacel® and Daptacel® which would likely last through September, 2012. **Based on recent CDC guidance, this period of limited availability has been extended through March, 2013.**

Providers should expect their state-supplied Pentacel® orders to be reduced to approximately 2/3<sup>nds</sup> of their last, pre-April 2012 order. Additionally, providers must order appropriate DTaP, Hib, and polio replacement vaccines. Failure to do so will result in delayed orders which will impact your ability to fully vaccinate your patients. Though providers may experience order restrictions on their private orders for Daptacel®, the NCIP is not, at this time, restricting orders for DTaP vaccines.

NCIP understands the challenges that providers, parents, and patients face when there are limited supplies of vaccine, and apologizes for any inconvenience caused by these temporary order restrictions. Please contact the NCIP Help Desk, 1-877-873-6247, for guidance about ordering vaccines.

Cc: SMT NC Immunization Branch Steve Shore Greg Griggs Maclyn Powell  
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