December 15, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: North Carolina Immunization Program (NCIP) Providers

FROM: Beth Rowe-West, RN, BSN
Head Immunization Branch

SUBJECT: Urgent: Availability of Adult Vaccine Changes

The purpose of this memo is to inform providers of a change in the availability of certain vaccine products. Effective immediately, providers may no longer use the following NCIP vaccines for patients ages 19 and older: Menactra® (MCV4), Decavac® (Td), and Adacel® (Tdap). Alternative products that may be used for patients ages 19 and older who meet NCIP coverage criteria are Menveo® (MCV4), MassBiologics Td, and Boostrix® (Tdap). Updated coverage criteria reflecting this recent change will be available soon at the NCIP website: www.immunize.nc.gov.

Providers who vaccinate adults, but have only Menactra®, Decavac®, and Adacel® on hand should order an appropriate 3-month supply of alternative products for their adult patients during their next vaccine order and cease using Menactra®, Decavac®, and Adacel® for adult patients when that delivery arrives.

This change occurred because of recent contract changes between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and vaccine manufacturers. A contract for adult vaccines was not negotiated with the manufacturer of these products.

Questions about this change should be addressed to Brandon Rector at brandon.rector@dhhs.nc.gov or 919-707-5553.

Thank you for all you do to protect the health of North Carolinians.

Cc: SMT Field Staff Central Office Staff Vaccine Manufacturers
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