June 2, 2014

TO: North Carolina Immunization Program (NCIP) Providers

FROM: Wendy Holmes, R.N., Head Immunization Branch

SUBJECT: Availability of Pentacel®, Daptacel®, and Adacel®

The purpose of this memo is to alert providers of a recent notification from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding the availability of Pentacel®, the combination diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and acellular pertussis (DTaP), \textit{haemophilus influenzae} type B (Hib), and inactivated poliovirus (IPV) vaccine. A decrease in Pentacel® supply was announced by our program on April 24, 2012; however, as of May 1, 2014, the manufacturer was able to provide adequate supplies of Pentacel®.

Effective immediately, providers using the North Carolina Immunization Registry (NCIR) may begin ordering Pentacel® on the new order screen. Providers not using the NCIR may begin submitting orders for Pentacel®. Although not formally removed from availability, Daptacel® (DTaP) and Adacel® (Tdap), allocations were sporadically limited; adequate supplies are now available.

If you privately purchase Pentacel®, Daptacel®, or Adacel® for administering to non-VFC eligible patients, your supplies may still be restricted. For information on private purchase of these vaccines, please contact your vaccine distributor or Sanofi Pasteur at 1-800-822-2463.

Providers should deplete their supplies of the individual vaccines (DTaP, Hib, and IPV) or other combination vaccines as appropriate so as not to have wasted vaccine. (For details on the interchangeability of these vaccines, go to \texttt{http://bit.ly/pentacelguidance}.) Providers who let the individual or other combination vaccines expire because of a preference for Pentacel® will be subject to the financial restitution policy (at: \texttt{http://bit.ly/FRPolicy}) and will be charged for the cost of the wasted vaccine. NCIP will be closely monitoring vaccine orders to ensure minimal loss of vaccine supplies.

Please contact our Help Desk at 1-877-873-6247 for guidance on ordering vaccine.