

Questions Public Providers Ask about Enrolling in Oregon's Vaccine Program.



WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING?

Your clinic will receive vaccines at no cost to immunize children, and many adults if needed. Your clinic will help Oregon ensure all children and adolescents have access to affordable vaccines in order to protect our communities.

WHAT ARE MY RESPONSIBILITIES AS A PUBLIC PROVIDER?

As a provider, you are responsible for ensuring the integrity of federal immunization programs. This includes accounting for every dose of state-supplied vaccine and making sure vaccine is not lost due to poor storage and handling. We will give you tools and support to do this. It is essential that a staff person at your clinic is assigned responsibility for managing immunizations within your clinic and that they are given time to do this work.

WHICH VACCINES ARE OFFERED?

Oregon's Immunization Program (OIP) offers all ACIP recommended vaccines for children and adolescents. We also provide many vaccines recommended for adults, limited in some cases to patients with certain risk factors.

HOW DO I KNOW IF A PATIENT IS ELIGIBLE FOR VFC, 317 or BILLABLE VACCINE?

You will screen clients prior to administering vaccine to determine their vaccine eligibility by reviewing their age, insurance status, and in some cases, their health risk factors.

- VFC vaccine is for patients 0-18 years of age who are uninsured, are Medicaid-eligible, or are American Indian/Alaskan Native.
- In Oregon, 317 funds provide vaccines to some uninsured adults. Unlike VFC, 317 funds are only available to public clinics and not all vaccines are covered for all people.
- Billable vaccine is used for patients with private insurance, 19 years and older with Medicaid/Medicare, and uninsured adults that are not eligible for 317 vaccines. This vaccine is purchased from the state and paid for on a quarterly basis based on the doses the clinic has administered.

CAN I OPT TO ONLY OFFER VACCINES TO MY ESTABLISHED PATIENTS, OR MUST I PROVIDE IMMUNIZATIONS TO WALK-IN PATIENTS?

If your clinic is a local health department clinic or a Federally-qualified agency, you must offer immunization services to all VFC and 317 eligible clients who need vaccine and meet the eligibility criteria, even if the client was not previously served by your site.

If you are a public clinic that is NOT a local health department clinic or Federally-qualified agency, you are not required to provide vaccine to patients unless they are already an established patient. Accepting additional patients is encouraged but ultimately your clinic's decision.

CAN I CHARGE AN ADMINISTRATION FEE TO VFC AND 317 PATIENTS?

You may charge an administration fee, but must not charge for the vaccine itself. The administration fee can be up to **\$21.96 per injection**. You will bill the administration fee directly to DMAP or the Coordinated Care Organization (CCO) for Medicaid-enrolled patients or directly to uninsured patients. VFC and 317 vaccines CANNOT be denied to eligible patients due to their inability to pay the administration fee. You may charge a higher administration fee to your billable patients.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN VFC AND ALERT IIS?

ALERT IIS is a computerized statewide Immunization Information System (IIS), or registry. ALERT IIS collects immunization information from both the public and private health care sectors and combines it into one complete record for individuals in Oregon.

VFC is the program that provides vaccines at no cost to children with no insurance, Medicaid, or who are Native Alaskan or American Indian. ALERT IIS participation is a required and integral part of the VFC program accountability.

WILL I NEED A NEW REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER OR TEMPERATURE MONITORING EQUIPMENT?

Not if you already have equipment that meets program requirements. Dorm-style refrigerators with an inner freezer compartment are NOT acceptable for storing refrigerated or frozen vaccines. Please refer to our Refrigerator and Freezer Guide and Thermometer Guide on the VFC website for more detailed information.

HOW DO I GET STARTED?

Once we receive your completed paperwork, your Health Educator will contact you to set up an enrollment visit. This visit will serve as a training to ensure that your clinic is prepared to meet all program requirements. Everything you need to get started will be provided at this visit.

Questions? Please call 971-673-0300 to reach the Health Educator assigned to your clinic OR visit our website at: www.healthoregon.org/vfc

If you need this material in an alternate format, please call 971-673-0300