

NewYork-Presbyterian Community Health Plan

PROVIDER ALERT

-- June 2006

Vaccine Distribution for all Child Health Plus (CHPlus B) Enrollees

Effective August 1st 2006, the NewYork-Presbyterian Community Health Plan (NYPCHP) was notified that the New York State Department of Health (SDOH) will purchase and distribute vaccine for Child Health Plus B (CHPlus B) members using the same process that is used for vaccine for Medicaid (Child Health Plus A) members. SDOH will purchase and distribute required vaccine to enrolled providers through the *Vaccines for Children (VFC)* distribution network.

This process will help to ensure vaccination of our Child Health Plus members and help to alleviate financial burdens on providers of purchasing the vaccines. As new immunizations are approved, they will become available for distribution to providers for timely administration.

If you currently participate in the VFC program, you will be able to order vaccine for NYPCHP members using the same process you currently use to order vaccine for your Medicaid (Child Health Plus A) members. If you are not currently enrolled in the VFC program you must now apply in order to receive vaccine through this program. The Department 's Immunization Program and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Bureau of Immunization will be reaching out to you to assist you in enrolling in the VFC program.

Providers who do not participate in the VFC program will not receive this free vaccine. Nor will you receive payment from The Plan for the cost of vaccine as the State will no longer be paying NYPCHP for cost of the vaccine in their monthly rates.

As a reminder, you are required to track and separately report the number and type of vaccine provided to our members to the Department's Bureau of Immunization and New York City's Bureau of Immunization. These Offices will be forwarding information on this process to all providers who participate in the VFC program.

Current VFC providers should begin ordering for their vaccine for their Child Health Plus members by July 1st, 2006 so that they can begin providing the vaccine to Child Health Plus members effective August 1st, 2006. If you have any questions regarding the VFC process or if you require assistance in enrolling in the VFC program, please contact Mr. Gary Rinaldi in the Department's Immunization Program at (518) 474-4578 or Ms Barbara Shields at (212) 447-2559 with New York City's Bureau of Immunization.