

DATE: June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016

TO: All Providers (VFC, Adult Immunization Program (AIP), & Birth Dose Hep B Providers)

FROM: NDHHS Immunization Program

RE: Vaccine Storage & Handling Errors Memo 2016-6-c

The NDHHS Immunization Program has been notified of several instances where vaccine shipments have been received and not placed in the storage units. These instances have resulted in large amounts of vaccine loss worth thousands of dollars. This memo is to remind all staff that clinics are responsible for instances of vaccine loss due to negligence. As outlined in the annual signed Provider Agreement, providers agree to replace vaccine purchased with federal funds that are deemed non-viable due to provider negligence on a dose-for-dose basis purchased privately by the clinic.

Please review your clinic's vaccine storage and handling protocols. Vaccine shipments will arrive according to the days and time indicated in your clinic's NESIIS profile. Please notify our program of any changes.

All staff members who handle or administer vaccines, including staff who accept vaccine deliveries, need to be educated to how to properly accept vaccine deliveries, how to store vaccine immediately in the appropriate storage unit, and the requirement to separate vaccine by funding source within the storage unit.

All staff are responsible for ensuring that storage unit doors are closed and are responsible for communicating instances when vaccine might have been exposed to temperatures outside of range and immediately following the Temperature Excursion Protocol. Please review the 2016 Nebraska Immunization Program Provider Manual, pages 19-20, for more specific details.

We greatly value a successful collaboration between your clinic and our program. Should you have any questions please contact your clinic's assigned Community Health Nurse or contact the NDHHS Immunization Program at (402) 471-6423 or (800) 798-1696.

Thank you.