



IMPORTANT NOTICE TRICARE EDITION

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| Route to: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Office Manager |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Staff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing Staff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Immunization Coordinator |

An Immunization Update from the Idaho Immunization Program (IIP)

VACCINATION OPTIONS FOR TRICARE INSURED CHILDREN

Due to recent changes in federal funding for the Vaccine for Children program, state-supplied vaccines can no longer be used for children insured solely by TRICARE. Details of this change were sent to health care providers August 31, 2012.

State-supplied Vaccine Use Policy

If your clinic serves children who are insured **only** by TRICARE, you may continue to administer state-supplied vaccine to these children until the end of September 2012. Any child who has another insurance policy, **in addition to** TRICARE, will remain eligible for state-supplied vaccine even after October 1, 2012.

Beginning October 1, 2012, children who are insured *only* by TRICARE may not receive state-supplied vaccine.

If your clinic chooses to purchase vaccines on the private market and will bill TRICARE for those vaccines, then those children can continue to receive vaccines in your office. If not, please advise your patients of their options as detailed below.

Options for Vaccination for TRICARE Insured Children After October 1, 2012

If you are aware of a good vaccinating pharmacy that accepts TRICARE in your area, please refer your patients to that pharmacy. If you cannot give your patients a referral, please recommend that they contact their pharmacy of choice to ask them if they:

- accept TRICARE,
- offer the vaccine(s) the patient needs,
- require a prescription based on the child's age,
- require an appointment so they can pre-order the needed vaccine.

Children insured by TRICARE are able to receive their vaccination on a military base. If the family does not live near a military base, pharmacies that are contracted with ExpressScripts are the best alternative. A recommendation to a local pharmacy is ideal. A full list of pharmacies that accept TRICARE insurance can be found in the link below.

<http://www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE/pharmacy/>

To assist in the pharmacy search process, Idaho Immunization Program staff researched the following pharmacies in Idaho:

- **Rite Aid** pharmacies offer all ACIP recommended vaccines. Some Rite Aid stores need advance notice of the vaccines to be administered since they do not stock them all

September 21, 2012



Idaho
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and will need to place an order. Rite Aid will vaccinate children of any age, however, children under the age of three years will need a prescription from their doctor.

- **Wal-Mart & Sam's Club** pharmacies provide most vaccines needed for children ages four and older and have vaccines readily available. No prescription is necessary, however, Wal-Mart and Sam's Club will not vaccinate children under the age of four.
- Other pharmacies such as **Kmart** and **Albertsons (Savon)** may only vaccinate children ages twelve and older.
- **Walgreens** currently does not accept TRICARE insurance.

September 21, 2012