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TO: **All Users of State Supplied Vaccines**

FROM: **Vincent Sacco, MS** **James L. Hadler, MD, MPH**
Immunization Program Manager **State Epidemiologist**

DATE: **November 13, 2006**

SUBJECT: **Update: Shortage of Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine resolved**

The primary purpose of this communication is to notify you that the supply issues concerning production of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4) have been resolved and to provide guidance for who is eligible to be vaccinated with state-supplied MCV4 vaccine.

Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine

In May 2006, the Immunization program scaled back the recommendations for meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4) due to the nationwide shortage of vaccine. The manufacturer of MCV4, Sanofi Pasteur, now reports that limitations in the supply of the vaccine have been resolved, allowing for a resumption of the full ACIP recommendations. **Providers can now resume vaccinating the following cohorts with publicly supplied vaccine, regardless of health insurance status:**

- **11-12 year olds**
- **college freshmen living in dormitories and high school seniors as they get accepted to college**

In addition, providers can resume catch-up vaccination of VFC-eligible high school enterers (14-15 year olds). Unfortunately, we do not have a sufficient budget to be able to provide vaccine for all 14-15 year olds. Providers should strictly adhere to vaccinating individuals in the recommended ages in order to avoid another possible shortage of the vaccine.

Attached is an updated vaccine eligibility criteria chart. As always if you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Immunization Program at (860) 509-7929.