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Director

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

February 1, 2008

TO: California Licensed Child Care Facilities

SUBJECT: Hib Vaccine 2008 Special Schedule for child care entry


Through 2008, we expect to face a nationwide shortage of vaccine that protects against *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (commonly called “Hib”), the major cause of meningitis in young children. Doctors will continue to give this vaccine, but one dose from the series will be dropped. This will not create a risk of disease, but does affect an immunization requirement, as the Hib vaccine is mandated for child care entry in California.

To allow children to be admitted to child care during this vaccine shortage, the California Department of Public Health has issued a temporary Special Immunization Schedule, as permitted by State law.

During 2008, children entering child care at ages **15 months to four years and six months can be admitted with one dose of Hib, received at any age, regardless of when the dose was administered.** There are no other changes to the immunization requirements for child care facilities; children younger than 15 months still require up to 2 doses for entry, depending on their age.

For example, a child born June 1, 2006 who had one Hib dose on April 1, 2007 may still be admitted during the vaccine shortage. The examples below show how this would look on the child’s *California Immunization Record* (“yellow card”):

IMMUNIZATION RECORD
Comprobante de Inmunización



Name nombre: Alex Gutierrez

Birthdate fecha de nacimiento: 6/1/06

Allergies alergias: none

Vaccine Reactions reacciones a cualquier vacuna: none

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HAEMOPHILUS INFLUENZAE TYPE B (HIB)	1	4/1/07	Mary Brown, M.D.	
	2			
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To assist you with these changes, enclosed you will find:

- 2008 Special Schedule, Tables 1 and 2
- California Immunization Requirements for Child Care – IMM 230, Rev 1/08
- List of Local Health Departments

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We expect this change to continue through 2008. We will keep you informed when there are changes in the future. If you have questions about the information in this mailing, please contact your local health department.

Your role in checking and recording vaccinations is very important. We appreciate your efforts to help keep California children safe from vaccine-preventable diseases.

Sincerely,



Howard Backer, M.D., M.P.H
Chief, Immunization Branch
California Department of Public Health

Encl: 2008 Special Schedule, Tables 1 and 2
California Immunization Requirements for Child Care – IMM 230, Rev 1/08
List of Local Health Departments.

cc: Gloria Merk, Program Administrator, Child Care Program Office,
California Department of Social Services
California Local Health Department Immunization Coordinators