



Maine Center for Disease  
Control and Prevention

An Office of the  
Department of Health and Human Services

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TO: Maine Immunization Program Providers  
FROM: Maine Immunization Program Staff  
SUBJECT: New Labeling on Merck Vaccine Shipments  
DATE: June 20, 2013

Beginning the week of June 24<sup>th</sup>, Merck will begin using new shipping containers for delivery of frozen vaccine products.

Here are some of the changes implemented with the new shipping containers:

- Boxes will be more identifiable because of Merck's logo on the banding straps and Merck's name on top of box.
- New handles and symbols to reduce mismanagement and/or misplacement of the container.
- Easy-to-read instructions are on the outside stressing immediate storage and handling is needed.
- A pamphlet on the inside to reiterate the important storage and handling required for the product, as well as instruction about how to recycle the container.
- Reinforced interior design to better protect product from shifting and possibly being crushed in transit.
- Bubble wrap included to keep product secure and dry.

Attached are pictures of the new packaging. Please note that the packing is different for publicly and privately purchased vaccine shipments.

If you have any questions, please contact the Maine Immunization Program at 287-3746.