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Maine Immunization Program
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TO: Maine Immunization Providers
FROM: Maine Immunization Program
SUBJECT: Pediarix® Supply Update
DATE: April 19, 2013

Dear Providers,

We want to give you an update related to the availability of Pediarix vaccine between now and September 2013. As a result of the ongoing Pentacel vaccine shortage that began in April 2012, Glaxo Smith Kline (GSK) has experienced increased demand for Pediarix vaccine. They have taken steps to meet this increased demand, but will not be able to supply this vaccine at the same rate over the next 4-6 months before Pentacel is available without restrictions, which is currently anticipated to occur in September 2013.

There is sufficient supply of single antigen DTaP, Hep B and IPV.

Unfortunately, due to the continued shortage of combination DTaP vaccine, GSK now expects to be able to cover only a portion of the continued shortage with PEDIARIX. To help ensure that some quantity of combination DTaP vaccine remains available to as many providers as possible, GSK will institute allocations of PEDIARIX until September 2013 with the intention of removing these allocations once DTaP combination vaccine availability increases.

We are asking that you only order half of the Pediarix quantity that have been ordered over the past several months.

If you have any questions, please contact the Maine Immunization Program Health Educators at:
Phone (207) 287-3746 or (800) 867-4775, Email: ImmunizeME.DHHS@Maine.gov.

Sincerely,

Tonya Philbrick, BS, NCMA
Director, Maine Immunization Program