

MnVFC Announcement

Date: July 24, 2020

To: MnVFC Providers

From: MnVFC Program

Re: **Resuming MnVFC Site Visits**

Please route to:

- Clinical supervisor
- Medical director
- Clinic manager
- Clinic staff
- Pharmacy
- Vaccine staff

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have not been doing vaccines for children (VFC) site visits. Sites that were due for a visit during this time have submitted information to us to ensure vaccine is being stored properly while we are not able to do in-person site visits.

CDC is now recommending that VFC site visits resume when the local COVID-19 pandemic allows. There is a lot of variation in the level of COVID-19 disease spread in the state of Minnesota, and we expect that the situation will continue to be fluid over the coming months.

Next steps for site visits

We will resume doing site visits when possible within your local area. This is going to depend on many factors including the spread of the disease in the community, the capacity of the reviewer to do visits, the capacity of the site to do visits, and the ability for the reviewer to travel within the state.

If your site is overdue for a visit and your site reviewer contacts you to schedule a visit, please work to set up a visit when you are able. To reduce the amount of time the reviewer needs to be in your clinic, we may collect some of the required information before the visit.

Because of the variation of capacity and the fluid COVID-19 situation, some clinics will still not get a visit until later, so we will continue to ask for calibration certificates and temperature logs at the time your visit was due while waiting to complete the in-person site visit.

Temporary clinic closures reminder

If your clinic was temporarily closed and is now ready to reopen, follow these guidelines:

1. Visually inspect the storage unit to make sure there has not been any damage to the unit.
2. DO NOT use the vaccine until temperatures have been reviewed. Download the temperature monitoring data for the entire time your clinic was closed.
 - a. Take action on any out-of-range temperatures before using the vaccine.
3. Do a complete inventory of your vaccine. Remove any expired vaccine from the unit.
4. Remove the *Clinic Closure: DO NOT USE VACCINE* poster from each unit once the vaccine is determined to be safe. Then you can start vaccinating patients.
5. Contact our program to let us know you have reopened. Refer to your Policies and Procedures Manual for more information on what to do with expired/lost vaccine found on [MnVFC Required Reports and Trainings \(www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/hcp/mnvfc/required.html\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/hcp/mnvfc/required.html).