

VFC Influenza (Flu) Vaccine Prebook Process Summary

Generally in January and February of each year, the Alabama Vaccines For Children (AL VFC) Program ask VFC providers to submit their preferred presentations of VFC influenza (flu) vaccine by mail/email, which is called prebook. CDC requests from all state VFC Programs their pre-booked orders by March 1.

In the last summer or early fall, CDC allocates flu presentations based what has been delivered to McKesson, CDC's VFC vaccine distributor. When McKesson receives doses, they update the information in CDC's VTrckS. AL VFC Program approves orders to be distributed based on what is in stock at McKesson. State VFC Programs are not told which presentations will arrive first, just what is received at McKesson. AL VFC Program fills flu orders based on first ordered, first distributed.

For example, a provider who prebooked on April 28 requested 100 doses of 6 to 35 months Fluzone and 100 doses of 36 months and older Fluzone pre-filled syringes. Those presentations were not available by the time the providers who ordered before April 28 were filled. Other presentations of Fluzone maybe available, i.e., 6 months and older multiple dose vials. Providers are notified if their preferred presentation is no longer available and AL VFC Program will ask providers if they will accept another presentation not requested.

The AL VFC Program recommends providers submit their prebook as soon as possible with different presentations and manufacturers to ensure you receive flu vaccine early in the season.