

# Vaccines for Children

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- **Transition from Universal Select State to VFC State Only**
- **By January of 2009 Nevada will be a VFC State Only**

# What is VFC

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- Since 1994 the State Immunization Program has administered the Federal Vaccines for Children Program
- Manages the purchase and distribution of federally funded vaccines
- Monitors storage and handling of the federally funded vaccines
- Provides education and training
- Provides technical support for provider quality assurance

# VFC Eligibility

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- Vaccines for Children (VFC)
  - Medicaid eligible
  - Uninsured
  - Native American/Alaskan Native
  - Underinsured (have to receive VFC only vaccines at a FQHC or local health departments)

# Who are the VFC Eligible Children?

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- Medicaid-child ENTITLED to medical assistance plan
- Uninsured-child not enrolled under and entitled to benefits through a health insurance policy or plan, including group health plan, prepaid health plan, or employee welfare benefit plan
- Underinsured- a child entitled to benefits under a health insurance policy or plan but such benefits are not available with respect to COST of vaccine. These children can only be given VFC vaccines at an FQHC or an RHC
- Native American/Alaska Native-defined under Health care Improvement ACT (P.L 94-437)any person who is a member of an Indian tribe; is an Eskimo, Aleut or other Alaska native.

# Vaccines Provided to All Children Regardless of Insurance Status

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- DTaP
- Hep B
- Hib
- MMR
- Polio
- Td
- Tdap

# Vaccines Selected Out for VFC and Nevada Check Up

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- Hep A
- HPV
- Menactra
- Pediarix
- Prevnar
- RotaTeq
- Varicella

# Why the change, and why now?

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- Factors of change in past 15 years
  - Increased number of vaccines and cost as recommended by ACIP
  - Decrease in available federal resources
  - Growing population
  - Lagging immunization rates

# Policy Discussion – VFC Only/Nevada Check Up

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- Due to these factors the State determined:
  - The current Universal – Select model is not sustainable given the reduction in federal Section 317 funding
  - The Immunization Program will continue to provide federally funded vaccines for VFC eligible and Nevada Check Up enrolled children (Federal VFC funds/Federal S-CHIP funds)

# Immediate Impact

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- Provides vaccines for VFC eligible and Nevada Check Up enrolled children age 0 – 18 years
- Fully insured children would not be eligible to receive the state-supplied vaccine
- Underinsured children would be eligible to receive state-supplied vaccine from a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or Rural Health Clinic (RHC)

# Pros

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- Less confusing program as eligibility is clearly defined
- Increased use of combination vaccines reducing number of shots
- Section 317 vaccine funds may be used to support special community immunization projects

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# Challenges

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- State supplied vaccines not available to insured children
- Insured children will need to be covered by their health plans
- Cost to providers to purchase vaccines for insured children

# Vaccine Funding for the Nevada State Immunization Program FFY 2008



**Federal VFC: \$26.3 million**  
**800,000 doses**



**Federal 317: \$2.14 million**  
**106,000 doses**



**Federal S-CHIP: \$1.43 million**  
**46,000 doses**

# Funding for Vaccines

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- Federal S-CHIP
  - State Medicaid program requiring matching State General Funds
  - During FFY 2008, accounts for 5% of the total
  - Used to purchase all of the vaccines offered by the Immunization Program

# Immunization rates

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- Healthy people 2010 goal is 80% of 2 year olds properly immunized.
- How National and State coverage is determined;
  - National Immunization Survey
    - Five dose series 4:3:1:3:3
    - Six dose series 4:3:1:3:3:1