





Memorandum

TO: Directors, Health Service Regions
Immunization Program Managers, Health Service Regions
Directors, Local Health Departments
Immunization Program Managers, Local Health Departments

THRU: Jack C. Sims, Manager 
Immunization Branch

FROM: Karen Hess, Manager 
Vaccine Services Group

DATE: June 6, 2006

SUBJECT: Texas Vaccines for Children Program: Rotavirus Vaccine

Effective immediately, providers enrolled in the Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) Program may begin ordering the rotavirus vaccine, RotaTeq®, for TVFC-eligible infants. This vaccine is not two-tiered as meningococcal vaccine is and may be administered to underinsured children at any TVFC-enrolled clinic site. The vaccination series consists of three doses administered orally from ready-to-use vials and the vaccine is stored in the refrigerator.

Dosing Intervals and Cautions

The series must be initiated between 6 – 12 weeks of age and all three doses must be administered by 32 weeks of age. If the series is not initiated by 12 weeks of age, the vaccine cannot be administered. Intervals between doses must be strictly adhered to. Additionally, no doses of this vaccine can be administered after 32 weeks of age. Dosing intervals are as follows:

Age for Dose 1 6 – 12 weeks	Interval Between Doses 1 and 2 4 – 10 weeks	Interval Between Doses 2 and 3 4-10 weeks
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Caution is advised when considering vaccinating close contacts that have immunodeficient health conditions. There is a theoretical risk that the live virus vaccine can be transmitted to nonvaccinated contacts. The potential risk of transmission of vaccine virus should be weighed against the risk of acquiring and transmitting natural rotavirus.

Incomplete doses may occur if an infant spits or regurgitates the vaccine. If for any reason an incomplete dose of this vaccine is administered, a replacement dose is not recommended. Additional information regarding RotaTeq®, including contraindications and warnings, may be found in the product package insert or at the following website:

http://www.merck.com/product/usa/pi_circulars/r/rotateq/rotateq_pi.pdf

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Billing and Reporting

The Medicaid billing CPT code for rotavirus vaccine is 90680.

An updated TVFC Biological Order Form (C-68) and Monthly Biological Report (C-33) are attached. Both forms have been revised to include rotavirus vaccine. Emergency orders will not be allowed for initial orders of rotavirus; providers should order the vaccine at the time they place their next monthly order.

If you have additional questions regarding any of this information, please contact your Health Service Region or TVFC consultant.

Attachments