



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor
KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary
MARK BENTON • Chief Deputy Secretary for Health
KELLY KIMPLE • Acting Director, Division of Public Health

October 17, 2024

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local Health Departments (LHDs)

FROM: Carrie Blanchard, PharmD, MPH *CB*
Immunization Branch Director

SUBJECT: Ordering Guidance for State-Supplied Vaccines in Response to Hurricane Helene

The purpose of this memo is to provide updated ordering guidance to Local Health Departments (LHDs) for the use of state-supplied vaccine in response to Hurricane Helene.

The North Carolina Immunization Program (NCIP) will continue to supply Tdap or Td and COVID-19 vaccines as part of its emergency response.

COVID-19 Vaccine Ordering

- LHDs can utilize NCIR to order 317 Vaccine for Adult (VFA) COVID-19 vaccines for disaster survivors and emergency response workers, regardless of their insurance status.
- When ordering state-supplied adult vaccines, you must specify which product(s) and how many doses are for your eligible adult population in the comments section on the order screen. For detailed instructions on submitting requests, please refer to [COVID-19 Vaccine Ordering Guidance](#)

Td/Tdap Vaccine Ordering

- Requests for Td and Tdap vaccines should continue to be submitted through WebEOC by contacting your local emergency management office. As a reminder, Td should only be administered to individuals with a contraindication to receiving pertussis-containing vaccines. Td can be ordered in single doses. For detailed instructions on submitting requests, please refer to [Td/Tdap Vaccine Ordering Guidance](#).

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LOCATION: 5605 Six Forks Road, Building 3, Raleigh, NC 27609
MAILING ADDRESS: 1931 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1931
www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-707-5000 • FAX: 919-870-4829

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Additional Vaccine Recommendations

Additional vaccines may be recommended due to an individual's age and/or risk factors. For example, the risk for influenza increases for those living in congregate settings (such as shelters). The risk for hepatitis A may increase in communities facing long-term impacts to water and sewer services, which will decrease the ability for individuals to maintain good hygiene practices. [Here is a resource on additional communicable diseases and other health concerns following Hurricane Helene](#). Consider offering appropriate vaccines to populations that may be at risk, including hep A.

Doses for Vaccines for Children (VFC) and 317 VFA eligible patients, as outlined in the [NCIP Coverage Criteria](#), can be obtained through normal ordering processes via the NCIP. For non-eligible patients, providers are advised to continue utilizing their regular procurement processes for private stock. Additionally, AA 546 funds can be used to purchase vaccines, which must be provided to patients at no cost, regardless of their insurance status.

Vaccine Reimbursement

If private vaccine is procured at the county's expense to replace private vaccine lost due to Hurricane Helene or as part of storm response and recovery efforts, it may be included in your submission for Hurricane Helene Reimbursement to FEMA. North Carolina Public Health Preparedness & Response will be providing LHDs information on how to submit for reimbursement soon. For VFC and/or 317 VFA vaccines lost, contact Storage and Handling at 877-873-6247 for instructions on wastage and replacement.

How to contact us:

For assistance, please contact the NCIR Help Desk by phone at 1.877.USE.NCIR (873-6247) or by [email](#). Thank you for your ongoing partnership and dedication to improving immunization outcomes in North Carolina.

In Health,
NC Department of Health and Human Services

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