

**ATTENTION: PHARMACISTS AS IMMUNIZERS**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER EXTENDED ADDITIONAL 30 DAYS**

**CHANGE IN MEDICAID FEE FOR SERVICE BILLING FOR FLU VACCINE  
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF SIX MONTHS  
AND 18 YEARS**

On January 12, 2013, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, via Executive Order #90, declared a Public Health Emergency for all of New York State in response to this year's increasingly severe flu season. The Governor issued an Executive Order which allows NYS certified pharmacists to administer flu vaccinations to patients between six months and 18 years of age. This Order suspended for 30 days the section of State Education Law that limits the authority of NYS certified pharmacists to administer immunizing agents only to individuals 18 years of age or older.

On February 12, 2013, the Governor extended this Executive Order for an additional thirty days. In addition, the New York State Commissioner of Health has been permitted to prescribe or order a State-wide non-patient specific regimen for seasonal influenza vaccine, covering individuals six months of age and older, to pharmacists already authorized to administer vaccinations against influenza to individuals 18 years of age and older.

**The Governor, having reconsidered all of the relevant facts and circumstances, has extended the Executive Order No. 90 and 93 for an additional thirty days, effective March 15, 2013.**

**The Standing Order is available on the following website:**

<http://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/influenza/seasonal/>

**For further information on Executive Order #96 refer to:**

<http://www.governor.ny.gov/executiveorder/96>

The seasonal flu vaccine for individuals under the age of 19 is provided free of charge by the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. Therefore, Medicaid does not reimburse providers for the seasonal flu vaccine for individuals under the age of 19. However, Medicaid does reimburse for vaccine administration.

NYS certified pharmacists may secure flu vaccine to administer to Medicaid enrolled children and uninsured children through the Vaccine for Children Program (VFC). Pharmacies not already enrolled in VFC may enroll, or for those who are already enrolled, may reactivate their enrollment. For VFC enrollment information, go to:

[http://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/vaccines\\_for\\_children.htm](http://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/immunization/vaccines_for_children.htm). The flu vaccine is provided free of charge by Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to the VFC and in turn to enrolled pharmacies.

NYS: For questions contact the New York State Vaccines for Children Program at [nyvfc@health.state.ny.us](mailto:nyvfc@health.state.ny.us) or 1-800-543-7468.

NYC: For more information about the Vaccines for Children program or to enroll in the program, call 1-347-396-2405.