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GOVERNOR

# STATE OF LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITALS



Alan Levine  
SECRETARY

**To:** Regional Administrators, Medical Directors  
**From:** Rubén A. Tapia, MPH, Director  
Immunization Program  
**Date:** March 4, 2008  
**Subject:** Requirement for Hib Booster is Temporarily Suspended

Please remember that the Hib vaccine booster dose administered at age 12-15 months should be deferred except for specific high-risk groups described below and in the MMWR. At this time, there are no immediate plans to change the interim recommendations. Please ensure that providers are reminded of the interim recommendations and that everything is done to follow them. A cooperative effort for the appropriate use of a valuable resource currently in limited supply will work towards an equitable and appropriate public health use of the vaccine. **However, this memo does NOT affect the usage of TriHibit (DTaP/Hib) by providers. If you have it, use it as age appropriately. We don't want it to expire unused.**

The basic interim recommendations are as follows:

- \* Defer administering the routine Hib vaccine booster administered at age 12-15 months except for specified high-risk groups.
- \* Certain children at increased risk for Hib disease, including children with asplenia, sickle cell disease, human immunodeficiency virus infection, and certain other immunodeficiency syndromes, and malignant neoplasms should continue to receive the full routinely recommended schedule including the 12-15 month booster dose.

This recommendation conforms to recommendations issued by the Advisory Committee on Immunizations Practices to the United States Public Health Services (ACIP), American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP).

For further information on Haemophilus Conjugate vaccination, please check the Immunization Policies and Procedures Manual available through the LINKS web homepage under Document Center at: <https://linksweb.oph.dhh.louisiana.gov/linksweb/main.jsp> and DHH <http://www.dhh.louisiana.gov/offices/?ID=265> website for your convenience.

Inquiries may be directed to the Immunization Program at 504-838-5300. If you do not have any questions, please make sure both Regional and Medical Directors (where appropriate) sign the memo. The Immunization Program appreciates your part in distributing, and making this memo available to the Parish Health Units within your jurisdiction. This Memorandum should be kept for future reference

APPROVED FOR REDIRECTION OR RE-DISTRIBUTION

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Regional Administrators Date

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Medical Directors Date