



**DAVIESS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
**303 East Hefron Street, Washington, Indiana 47501**  
**Phone: (812) 254-8666 Fax: (812) 256-8643**

Dear Clients, Parents, and Guardians,

Over the years, we have seen the value of vaccination in protecting our children against diseases that once ravaged our nation. Vaccines protect our children from different diseases that once caused severe illness, life-long deformities, and even death.

The Indiana State Department of Health notified all immunization clinics in Indiana of funding changes in the publicly funded Children's Vaccine Program (VFC). To continue with our VFC program, health departments are required to comply with these changes by February 1, 2012. The new requirements closely examine health insurance programs that cover vaccines. The intention is NOT to leave children without the protection that vaccines provide, but to distribute vaccine costs to insurance policies that include coverage for vaccines. This sharing of costs will allow limited public dollars to stretch further in providing vaccine coverage to the children throughout Daviess County and Indiana.

How will these changes affect your children over the next months?

Families who have private insurance will need to become well acquainted with the terms and provisions of the child's insurance program especially in regards to vaccination coverage. Does the policy cover all vaccines or only specific vaccines? Are there caps to the vaccination coverage?

Parents of children with insurance policies that cover vaccines, that have high deductibles or co-pays will NO longer be eligible to receive vaccines at the immunization clinics which are sponsored by the health department. Those who have insurance coverage will need to obtain their vaccines from their private medical provider.

There will be NO changes for children who have any form of Medicaid, who have no health insurance (uninsured) or are underinsured. Children will be considered underinsured only if their private insurance policy does not include any vaccine coverage, does not cover specific vaccines, or there is a yearly dollar cap in vaccine coverage and that cap has been met. These children will continue to receive vaccines through the clinics which are sponsored by the Daviess County Health Department.

Each child's eligibility for vaccines through the VFC program will be assessed at each immunization clinic. We ask that you bear with us as this transition in eligibility takes place.

Thank you for your patience and understanding,

Merle Holsopple, M.D., Health Officer

Jane Norton, R.N., Daviess County PHN