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## Standing Orders for Administering Pentacel Vaccine to Children

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**Purpose:** To reduce morbidity and mortality from diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, haemophilus influenza (type B), and polio by vaccinating all children and teens who meet the criteria established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).

**Policy:** Under these standing orders, eligible nurses and other healthcare professionals (e.g., pharmacists), where allowed by state law, may vaccinate children who meet any of the criteria below.

### Procedure

1. Identify infants ages 6 weeks through 4 years of age who have not completed DTaP, Tetanus, Pertussis, Polio, or Hib vaccination series.
2. Screen all patients for contraindications and precautions to components of Pentacel:
  - a. **Contraindications:** a history of a serious reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose of Pentacel or to a vaccine component. For information on vaccine components, refer to the manufacturer's package insert ([www.immunize.org/package-inserts](http://www.immunize.org/package-inserts)) or go to [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/downloads/appendices/B/excipient-table-2.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/downloads/appendices/B/excipient-table-2.pdf).  
Progressive neurologic disorders
  - b. **Precautions:**
    - moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever
    - collapse or shock like episode within 48 hours
    - persistent, inconsolable crying lasting 3 or more hours, occurring within 48 hours
    - Guillain- Barre syndrome that occurs within 6 weeks of receipt of a prior vaccine containing tetanus toxoid
3. Provide all patients (or, in the case of a minor, parent or legal representative) with a copy of the most current federal Vaccine Information Statement (VIS). You must document in the patient's medical record or office log, the publication date of the VIS and the date it was given to the patient (parent/legal representative). Provide non-English speaking patients with a copy of the VIS in their native language, if available and preferred; these can be found at [www.immunize.org/vis](http://www.immunize.org/vis).
4. Provide routine vaccination with Pentacel at ages 2,4,6 and 15-18 months of age, an additional booster dose of IPV should be administered at age 4-6 years of age. The first dose may be given as early as 6 weeks of age. Doses must be separated by at least 4 weeks with the 4<sup>th</sup> dose separated from the 3<sup>rd</sup> dose by at least 6 calendar months and not administered before 12 months of age.

Administer 0.5 mL intramuscularly in the vastus lateralis for infants (and toddlers lacking adequate deltoid mass). Use a 22–25 g needle. Choose needle length appropriate to the child's age and body mass: infants younger than 12 mos: 1"; 1 through 2 yrs: 1–1.3"; 3 yrs and older: 1–1½".
5. For children who have completed a four dose series with Pentacel vaccine should receive a fifth dose of DTaP vaccine at 4 through 6 years of age. Pentacel may be used to complete the first 4 doses of the DTaP series in infants who have received one or more doses of Daptacel vaccine and are also scheduled to receive the other antigens of Pentacel vaccine.
6. Document each patient's vaccine administration information and follow up in the following places:
  - a. **Medical chart:** Record the date the vaccine was administered, the manufacturer and lot number, the vaccination site and route, and the name and title of the person administering the vaccine. If vaccine was not given, record the reason(s) for non-receipt of the vaccine (e.g., medical contraindication, patient refusal).
  - b. **Personal immunization record card:** Record the date of vaccination and the name/location of the administering clinic.
7. Be prepared for management of a medical emergency related to the administration of vaccine by having a written emergency medical protocol available, as well as equipment and medications. To prevent syncope in older children, vaccinate patients while they are seated or lying down and consider observing them for 15 minutes after receipt of the vaccine.
8. Report all adverse reactions to Pentacel to the federal Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) at [www.vaers.hhs.gov](http://www.vaers.hhs.gov) or by calling (800) 822-7967. VAERS report forms are available at [www.vaers.hhs.gov](http://www.vaers.hhs.gov).

