



# QUICK POINTS

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota  
and Blue Plus

December 12, 2008

## Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) Minnesota Vaccines for Children Program (MnVFC) = Shortage of Hib vaccine (CPT 90648)

Due to the reduced availability of Hib conjugate vaccines from the manufacturer, the Department of Human Services (DHS) has issued new billing instructions for dates of service on or after July 1, 2008.

### Groups affected

Group numbers for the affected Blue Plus products are as follows:

Product name	Group numbers
Blue Advantage (PMAP)	PP021, PP022, PP024, PP025, PP026, PP027
MinnesotaCare	PP111, PP112, PP151, PP152
CareBlue	PP300, PP301, PP302, PP303, PP304, PP305, PP306, PP312, PP313
South Country Health Alliance (SCHA) PMAP	PF022, PF025
South Country Health Alliance (SCHA) MinnesotaCare	PF151
South Country Health Alliance (SCHA) AbilityCare	PF500, PF501, PF502, PF510, PF511, PF520, PF530, PF540, PF541, PF542, PF544

### Billing instructions

If the Hib vaccine (CPT 90648) was privately purchased & administered to an MHCP recipient because the free MnVFC vaccine was unavailable, the fee for the serum (CPT 90648) should be billed directly to DHS for payment without the SL modifier. The administration fee should be billed to Blue Plus with the appropriate CPT code.

Please route this information to other interested staff.

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## Claims processing

If the provider links the administration code to diagnosis V03.81 – Prophylactic vaccination against Hemophilus Influenza, type B (Hib), without an accompanying vaccine code, the service will be processed and paid. If the administration code is linked to any other diagnosis code, the service will be rejected, and a letter sent to the provider to request the appropriate code for the vaccine.

This applies only to the initial Hib series, not the booster dose. Refer to the Center for Disease Control's (CDC's) interim recommendations for use of Hib vaccines.

## Hib vaccine shortage update from CDC

Please remember that revised Hib recommendations are NOT office-specific, these affect the whole country. The CDC and the Minnesota Department of Human Services recommend the following:

- Do not give the Hib vaccine booster to healthy children aged 12-15 months. Stocking vaccine to give the booster dose during the shortage can take away from providers who are struggling to provide the primary series. Continue to give booster to high-risk children with asplenia, sickle cell disease, HIV, other immune syndromes, or those who are Alaskan or Native American.
- Don't miss an opportunity. Use what vaccine you have to give any of the first three doses of the series. Do not turn away patients recommended to receive vaccine during the shortage; more vaccine is coming.
- Plan for when the shortage is over. Utilize best practice/recall-reminder systems and review the catch-up schedule: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules/child-schedule.htm#catchup>
- Manufacturers are working closely with agencies within Health and Human Services (HHS) to address Hib supply issues. CDC and MDH will communicate updates on Hib vaccine supply as soon as they are available.

## Questions?

If you have any questions, please contact provider service at **(651) 662-5200** or toll free at **1-800-262-0820**.