



Connecticut Immunization Program Vaccine Fraud & Abuse Statement

Cooperation

Compliance with the Vaccines For Children (VFC) Program requirements is an important step in preventing fraud and abuse of state and federal resources. The Connecticut VFC Program distributes approximately \$40 million dollars worth of free vaccine per year. A variety of methods are used to control and monitor for misuse of state supplied vaccine. Monthly doses administered data reports and vaccine ordering patterns are monitored to ensure that vaccine is given to appropriate age groups. All complaints regarding vaccine misuse will be promptly followed up the Immunization Program.

Fraud

Fraud is the intentional deception or misrepresentation made by a person with the knowledge that the deception could result in some unauthorized benefit to themselves or someone else. It includes any act that constitutes fraud under applicable federal or state laws.

Abuse

Abuse includes incidents or practices of providers that are inconsistent with sound fiscal, business or medical practices, and result in an unnecessary cost to the Medicaid Program, Immunization Program, or a health insurance company. Abuse also includes reimbursement for services that are not medically necessary or that fail to meet professionally recognized standards for health care.

What Can Be Done to Prevent Fraud & Abuse?

If you become aware of a situation or practice that you consider to be potential fraud or abuse, please contact the Immunization Program at (860) 509-7929. Being able to contact you during the course of the investigation is very helpful and important, however, you may remain anonymous if you wish. It is important to remember that reports of fraud and abuse are only reports until proven otherwise.

Examples of fraud and abuse include:

- A provider discontinues privately purchasing vaccine for patients whose insurance covers immunizations and gives every patient in the practice state supplied vaccine whether they are eligible or not
- A provider bills Medicaid for administration reimbursement when no vaccines were given
- A provider administers state supplied vaccine to a child, then bills the child's insurance company for the cost of the vaccine
- A provider charges the patient for state supplied vaccine

FRAUD AND ABUSE HURTS EVERYONE!