



# MEDICAL ASSISTANCE BULLETIN

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA • DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

ISSUE DATE  
December 15, 2006

EFFECTIVE DATE  
January 1, 2007

NUMBER  
\*SEE BELOW

SUBJECT  
Rotavirus Vaccine

BY  
  
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Office of Medical Assistance Programs

## PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to inform providers that a new vaccine is now being supplied by the Pennsylvania Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program. Effective September 15, 2006, RotaTeq®, a live, oral pentavalent vaccine indicated for the prevention of rotavirus gastroenteritis in infants and children was added to the list of vaccines approved for the VFC Program.

## SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to all Medical Assistance (MA) enrolled providers who are authorized to administer immunizations to MA recipients. Providers rendering services to MA recipients under the MA managed care delivery system should address any coding or rate-related questions to the appropriate managed care organization (MCO).

## BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

RotaTeq®, produced by Merck and Company was licensed in February 2006 by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for use among U.S. infants. The Center for Disease Prevention and Control's (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted to recommend the newly licensed vaccine to protect infants and young children against rotavirus gastroenteritis. The Rotavirus infects almost all children by the age of five, but severe, dehydrating gastroenteritis occurs primarily among children aged three to 35 months of age.

## PROCEDURE:

The Department of Public Welfare (Department) is currently covering RotaTeq® for MA-eligible children consistent with the indicated use of this vaccine as licensed by the FDA and current ACIP recommendations. For the complete ACIP recommendations, please

01-06-14, 08-06-20, 09-06-19, 31-06-26, 33-06-07

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

The appropriate toll-free number for your provider type.

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs website at [www.dpw.state.pa.us/omap](http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/omap)

log onto the CDC website at:

**<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5512a1.htm>**.

Beginning September 15, 2006, RotaTeq® can be ordered through the VFC Program for VFC-eligible children. The MA Program will continue to cover RotaTeq® for individuals under 19 years of age consistent with the indicated use of this vaccine as licensed by the FDA and current ACIP recommendations until December 31, 2006, to allow providers sufficient time to receive their vaccine from the VFC Program.

Effective January 1, 2007, the MA Program will reimburse VFC-enrolled providers for the administration of this vaccine for MA-eligible children consistent with the indicated use of RotaTeq® as licensed by the FDA and current ACIP recommendations. Providers may bill the Department for the administration of this vaccine using CPT code 90680. The MA fee for the administration of the vaccine is \$10.00 per administration. Providers participating in an MA MCO network must abide by payment arrangements as stated in their individual contract.