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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Docket No. CDC-2016-0029]

**Proposed Revised Vaccine Information Materials for Polio
and Varicella Vaccines**

AGENCY: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),
Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice with comment period.

SUMMARY: Under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act (NCVIA) (42 U.S.C. 300aa-26), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) develops vaccine information materials that all health care providers are required to give to patients/parents prior to administration of specific vaccines. HHS/CDC seeks written comment on the proposed updated vaccine information statements for polio and varicella vaccines.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before
[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE
FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by Docket
No. CDC-2016-0029, by any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal:
<http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions
for submitting comments.
- Mail: Written comments should be addressed to Suzanne
Johnson-DeLeon, National Center for Immunization and
Respiratory Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and
Prevention, Mailstop A-19, 1600 Clifton Road, N.E.,
Atlanta, Georgia 30329.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the
agency name and docket number. All relevant comments
received will be posted without change to
<http://regulations.gov>, including any personal information
provided. For access to the docket to read background
documents or comments received, go to
<http://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Skip Wolfe (crw4@cdc.gov),
National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases,

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Mailstop A-19,
1600 Clifton Road, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30329.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986 (Pub. L. 99-660), as amended by section 708 of Public Law 103-183, added section 2126 to the Public Health Service Act. Section 2126, codified at 42 U.S.C. 300aa-26, requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop and disseminate vaccine information materials for distribution by all health care providers in the United States to any patient (or to the parent or legal representative in the case of a child) receiving vaccines covered under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP).

Development and revision of the vaccine information materials, also known as Vaccine Information Statements (VIS), have been delegated by the Secretary to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Section 2126 requires that the materials be developed, or revised, after notice to the public, with a 60-day comment period, and in consultation with the Advisory Commission on Childhood Vaccines, appropriate health care provider and parent organizations, and the Food and Drug Administration. The

law also requires that the information contained in the materials be based on available data and information, be presented in understandable terms, and include:

- (1) A concise description of the benefits of the vaccine,
- (2) A concise description of the risks associated with the vaccine,
- (3) A statement of the availability of the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, and
- (4) Such other relevant information as may be determined by the Secretary.

The vaccines initially covered under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program were diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, measles, mumps, rubella and poliomyelitis vaccines. Since April 15, 1992, any health care provider in the United States who intends to administer one of these covered vaccines is required to provide copies of the relevant vaccine information materials prior to administration of any of these vaccines. Since then, the following vaccines have been added to the National Vaccine

Injury Compensation Program, requiring use of vaccine information materials for them as well: hepatitis B, *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib), varicella (chickenpox), pneumococcal conjugate, rotavirus, hepatitis A, meningococcal, human papillomavirus (HPV), and seasonal influenza vaccines. Instructions for use of the vaccine information materials are found on the CDC Web site at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/index.html>.

HHS/CDC is proposing updated versions of the polio and varicella vaccine information statements.

The vaccine information materials referenced in this notice are being developed in consultation with the Advisory Commission on Childhood Vaccines, the Food and Drug Administration, and parent and health care provider groups.

We invite written comment on the proposed vaccine information materials entitled "Polio Vaccine: What You Need to Know" and "Varicella Vaccine: What You Need to Know." Copies of the proposed vaccine information materials are available at <http://www.regulations.gov> (see Docket Number CDC-2016-0029). Comments submitted will be considered in finalizing

these materials. When the final materials are published in the Federal Register, the notice will include an effective date for their mandatory use.

Dated: March 9, 2016.

Sandra Cashman,

Executive Secretary,

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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