

Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS)

VAERS Instructions

What events should I report to VAERS?

VAERS encourages the reporting of any clinically significant adverse event that occurs after the administration of any vaccine licensed in the United States. You should report clinically significant adverse events even if you are unsure whether a vaccine caused the event.

The National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act (NCVIA) requires health care providers to report:

- Any event listed by the vaccine manufacturer as a contraindication to subsequent doses of the vaccine.
- Any event listed in the Reportable Events Table that occurs within the specified time period after vaccination.

How do I complete and submit the VAERS form?

All sections of the VAERS form must be completed in full. Do not leave anything blank unless the form indicates it is not for your use.

Once you have completed the form in full please fax it to the VFC program at 1-888-558-1941 and keep a copy for your records. The VFC program will submit the report to the CDC and will also keep a copy on file.

Why should I report to VAERS?

Each report provides valuable information that is added to the VAERS database. Accurate and complete reporting of post-vaccination events supplies the information needed for evaluation of vaccine safety. The CDC and FDA use VAERS information to ensure the safest strategies of vaccine use and to further reduce the rare risks associated with vaccines.

Administration Errors

It is no longer necessary to report administration errors to VAERS. However, these errors should be reported to The Institute for Safe Medication Practices. You can report these by visiting the website <http://www.ismp.org/reporterrors.asp>.

VAERS Table of Reportable Events Following Vaccination

See the attached two page document that outlines the vaccine, event and interval from vaccination.