

## VIMS PEARLS- RETURN VS. WASTE

*This is the first installment of what will be a regular Vaccinate Vermont feature- VIMS Pearls. “VIMS” stands for Vaccine Inventory Management System; it is the Vermont Registry based tool providers use to manage their state-supplied inventory and order vaccines. In each issue, we will identify a common vaccine ordering issue and offer advice or guidance on its resolution.*

All spoiled, expired or wasted vaccines must be accounted for and reported to the Immunization Program in VIMS. These doses are documented via an **Adjust Request** with an Adjustment Type of “Return” or “Waste.”

Vaccine	Brand	NDC	VFC VFA	Lot	Expiration	Adjustment Type
DTAP	Infanrix®	58160-0810-11	VFC	33H9N	1/11/2019	Return
HIB	ActHIB®	49281-0545-03	VFC	UI773AAZ	5/29/2018	Waste

There is frequently confusion about which Adjustment Type to choose and what to do with the non-viable product. Please refer to the information below for clarification.

### ADJUST TYPE - RETURN

**Definition** Non-viable, unopened and intact state-purchased vaccine vials and syringes. These should be returned to McKesson for federal excise tax credit.

### Examples

- Vaccine vials and/or pre-filled syringes that have expired
- Vaccine vials and/or pre-filled syringes that have become non-viable due to exposure to inappropriate temperatures

**Shipping Label?** Yes. UPS will email the Primary Vaccine Contact a UPS Shipping Label within a few hours of approval by the Health Department Immunization Program.

## ADJUST TYPE - WASTE

**Definition** Opened or damaged, unused state purchased vaccine vials. These vaccines may not be returned and should be discarded as medical waste.

### Examples

- Vaccine vial and/or pre-filled syringes that have been opened or damaged in some way, including:
- Broken vial/syringe
- Vaccine drawn up but not administered
- Opened/punctured multi-dose vials that are expired or spoiled

**Shipping Label?** No. The submission of a Waste Request will not generate a shipping label.

**Disposal** Discard of the product per office's policy for medical waste disposal.

Visit the [Vermont Department of Health Vaccine Ordering Page](#) for VIMS quick guides, FAQ, and the complete VIMS User Guide