

**May 10, 2019**

## **MMR vaccine available at some Family Health locations**

MOBILE, Alabama — Some local media outlets have reported a shortage of the MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) vaccine at pharmacies and medical facilities in Mobile County. The Mobile County Health Department’s primary care division, known as Family Health, does have some stock on hand.

Tiffany Pike, the Nurse Manager for Family Health’s Urgent Care, said she has noticed a slight increase in the administering of MMR to adults. “It is not a vaccine that adults usually request unless traveling to other countries and are uncertain of their status,” she said.

Family Health has a supply of vaccines available in its Private Stock inventory. These vaccines have been purchased by Family Health for distribution to the general public. The current cost for the MMR vaccine is \$85 plus a \$15 administration fee.

The majority of the doses at Family Health are part of the Vaccines For Children (VFC) program. This is a federally funded initiative that provides vaccines at no cost to patients 18 years and younger who might not otherwise be vaccinated because of an inability to pay. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention buy vaccines at a discount and distributes them to grantees such as Family Health. Children who are eligible for VFC vaccines are entitled to receive those vaccines recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, including the MMR.

The last MMR doses are reserved through a contract with the Catholic Social Services’ Refugee Resettlement Program. Catholic Social Services began providing refugee resettlement services in the early summer of 1975, with the fall of the South Vietnamese government to communist control. The program helps refugees, asylees and other eligible populations access to medical assistance, employment and social adjustment services in an effort to achieve self-sufficiency.

Vaccines are available at the following health centers: Citronelle (19250 North Mobile Street, open 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., 251-866-9126), Dauphin Island Parkway (2601 Dauphin Island Parkway, open 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m., 251-445-3450), Eight Mile (4009 Saint Stephens Road, open 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m., 251-456-1399), North Mobile (950 East Coy Smith Highway in Mount Version, open 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m., 251-829-9884), Semmes (3810 Wulff Road East, open 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m., 251-445-0582), Southwest Mobile (5580 Inn Road, open 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m., 251-666-7413) and Urgent Care in Downtown Mobile (251 North Bayou Street, open weekdays 7:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. and Saturdays 8 a.m.-noon, 251-445-8640). Please call to confirm that the correct vaccine is available prior to arrival.