



JAN 09 2017

Kristen Feemster, M.D., M.P.H., M.S.H.P.
Chair
Advisory Commission on Childhood Vaccines
The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
3535 Market St., Room 1511
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Dear Dr. Feemster:

Thank you for your letter to Secretary Burwell providing the Department with the recommendation of the Advisory Commission on Childhood Vaccines (ACCV) supporting an increase in the number of special masters in the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP) and funding for the VICP. She has asked me to respond to you on her behalf.

Please be assured that this recommendation will receive careful review within the Department. As you are aware, the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget proposes to increase the budget for administration of the VICP by \$1.7 million to \$9.2 million, which would provide substantially more resources to address the increase in claims filed.

I appreciate your leadership and the ACCV's advice and recommendations for improving the VICP and our nation's public health. A similar response has been sent to Mr. Jason Smith, Co-Chair of the ACCV, who co-signed your letter.

Sincerely,

/S/

Mary K. Wakefield, Ph.D., R.N.
Acting Deputy Secretary



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Mr. Jason Smith
Co-Chair
Advisory Commission on Childhood Vaccines
Pfizer
500 Arcola Road, Dock E – Office D4214
Collegeville, PA 19426

Dear Mr. Smith:

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Sincerely,

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Mary K. Wakefield, Ph.D., R.N.
Acting Deputy Secretary