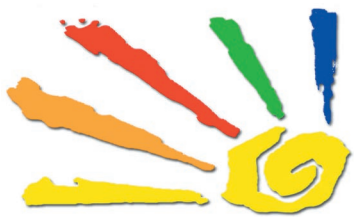


IMMUNIZE
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New Mexico
IMMUNIZATION
COALITION

NM Immunization Coalition *News*

Fall, 2005
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New Mexico jumps to 15th in the U.S. for immunizations

By Steve Nickell, PhD

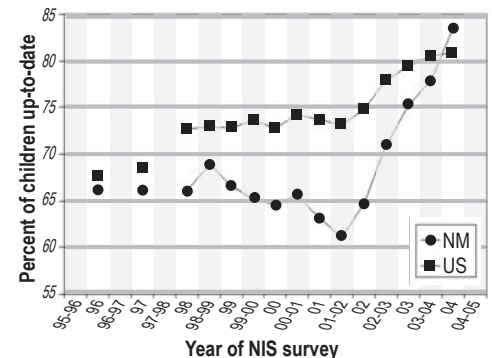
Immunization Program Manager, NMDOH

Childhood immunization coverage rates in New Mexico have increased again. In the latest CDC National Immunization Survey (NIS) completed during 2004 and released to the public on July 26, New Mexico's rates for the 4:3:1:3:3 cumulative vaccine series (4 doses of DTaP vaccine, 3 doses of polio vaccine, 1 dose of MMR vaccine, 3 doses of Hib vaccine, and 3 doses of Hepatitis B vaccines) in children 19-35 months of age have risen to 83.5%, an increase of 5.6% since the last NIS announcement six months ago and a

whopping 22.3% increase in the past two and a half years. New Mexico now ranks 15th in the U.S., up from 44th in the last NIS survey. This translates into about 9,200 more children 19-35 months of age being up to date on their immunizations than were up to date only two and a half years ago.

When using the 4:3:1:3:3:1 measure, that includes one dose of varicella, 79.1 % of New Mexico children 19-35 months of age are up to date, compared to 76.0%

4:3:1:3:3 Coverage Rates
New Mexico vs. U.S. — NIS 1996-2004



NEW MEXICO 15TH continued on page 2

"Shots for Tots to Teens" helping New Mexico's children stay healthy

By Eileen Goode

Clinical Programs Coordinator,
New Mexico Primary Care Association

New Mexico's brilliant blue skies and high altitude wind-drawn clouds blended well with the eighth annual KOAT Shots for Tots to Teens event, which succeeded in giving over 3,640 immunizations to more than

2,040 children. Jointly coordinated by the New Mexico Immunization Coalition (NMIC) and the New Mexico Primary Care Association (NMPCA), Shots for Tots to Teens immunization events took place on August 20— however, flexibility was given to locales with different school start dates that were better suited to have the event anytime during August

6–20. Sixty-nine public and private providers in 27 counties opened their doors to all of our state's children to give age-appropriate immunizations at no cost to the parent. KOAT-TV promoted the event with public service announcements that featured New Mexico's First Lady, Barbara Richardson.

SHOTS FOR TOTS continued on page 3

NMIC members

Honorary Chair:

First Lady Barbara Richardson

Co-Chairs:

Dorothy Danfelter, Interim co-chair

Norman White, MD

Executive Director:

Anna Pentler, MPH, MBA

Participating Organizations:

AARP

Aging and Long-Term Services Department

Albuquerque Public Schools

Blue Cross/Blue Shield of New Mexico

Border Health Office/BEC/NMSU

Centers for Disease Control

Dona Ana Immunization Coalition

GlaxoSmithKline Vaccines

Greater Albuquerque Immunization

Network (GAIN)

Indian Health Service

La Clinica de Familia Medical Center

Lovelace Sandia Health System

Merck Vaccine Division

Molina Health Plan

NM Academy of Family Physicians

NM CYFD

NM Department of Health

NM Immunization Advisory Group

NM Influenza Vaccine Consortium

NM Human Services Department

NM Hospital and Health Systems

NM Medical Review Association

NM Medical Society/CPI

NM Nurses Association

NM Pediatric Society

NM Pharmaceutical Association

NM Primary Care Association

NM Public Health Association

NM School Nurses Association

NM State Department of Education

NM State PTA

Presbyterian Healthcare Services

Rotary Clubs of New Mexico

Sanofi Pasteur

Santa Fe Immunization Coalition

Sierra County Immunization Coalition

University of New Mexico/Health

Sciences Center

Villa Therese Catholic Clinic

Voices for Children

Wyeth Vaccines

CDC interim Immunization recommendations for those affected by Hurricane Katrina

The CDC has issued recommendations for individuals displaced by Hurricane Katrina and for emergency personnel who are responding in affected areas.

Information for those treating displaced individuals: If immunization records are not available, children 10 years old and younger should be treated as if they were up-to-date. Children between 11 and 18 should receive Tdap, meningococcal conjugate vaccine and, in some cases, influenza vaccine. Adults over 18 should receive Td (if it has been at least 10 years since they received a tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine) and, in some cases, pneumococcal polysaccharide and influenza vaccines.

The CDC has released special recommendations regarding influenza, varicella, MMR and hepatitis A vaccines for individuals staying in crowded group settings, where the potential for the spread of disease is greatest.

If you are working with individuals displaced by Katrina, refer to the recommendations in their entirety at <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/hurricanes/katrina/vaccrecdisplaced.asp>.

In an attempt to aid families affected by Hurricane Katrina, the New Mexico Department of Health is extending a 30-day provisional enrollment to students transferring to New Mexico public and private schools and child-care facilities from areas affected by Hurricane Katrina (Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama). A special form will be available from schools and child-care facilities to track these children.

SHOT BRIEFS

Tdap Two new tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis booster vaccines for use in adolescents and adults, Boostrix and ADACEL, have been approved by FDA. CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) has recommended that 11-12 years olds receive Tdap in place of the tetanus-diphtheria (Td) booster currently given. ACIP also recommended that Tdap be offered to older adolescents 13-18 years of age to provide enhanced protection against pertussis (a 5-year interval between Td and Tdap is encouraged, but not required). Adult recommendations should be finalized at the ACIP meeting in October.

Meningococcal Vaccine ACIP is recommending routine vaccination of 11-12 year olds, high school freshman, and college students living in dormitories with the new meningococcal conjugate vaccine, Menactra (MCV4). By 2008, the goal is routine vaccination of 11-12 year olds. Menactra is currently in short supply due to very high demand.

Flu Season The New Mexico Influenza Vaccine Consortium has an excellent website: www.nmivc.org to share the latest information with NM providers. NMIVC encourages these high-priority groups to get a flu shot as soon as vaccine is available:

- Persons aged ≥ 65 years
- Residents of long-term care facilities
- Hospitalized patients
- Persons aged 2-64 years with chronic health conditions
- Children aged 6-23 months
- Pregnant women
- Health care personnel who provide direct patient care
- Household contacts and out-of-home caregivers of children aged < 6 months

NEW MEXICO 15TH continued from front cover

of children nationally. New Mexico now ranks 14th in 4:3:1:3:3:1 rates!

Congratulations to all New Mexico immunization providers and parents on this great achievement and for making childhood immunization a priority.

SHOTS FOR TOTS *continued from front cover*

Many clinics partnered with local Public Health Offices, school nurses, and involved their community at large in the event. Several participating sites got creative, combining Shots for Tots to Teens with their local health fairs and some provided car seat and bicycle helmet evaluations. One clinic reported "a truckload of new car seats were given away." Others invited local fire and police departments who brought fire trucks for kids to tour. First Lady Barbara Richardson attended one of the Santa Fe clinics.

The majority of the children immunized were 7–18 years old. Forty-three percent had no insurance coverage. Clinics processed 46 Medicaid Presumptive Eligibility applications during the Shots for Tots event.

The NMIC, McDonalds, Molina Health Plan, Presbyterian Health Plan and Lovelace Sandia Health Plan provided incentives that were given to children who received vaccinations. The giveaways included fun items such as bouncy balls, coloring books and crayons, rubber duckies, water bottles, pens, stickers, toothbrushes and ice cream cone coupons. Local businesses also contributed food and other items.

Special thanks to our sponsors: NMIC, NMPCA, KOAT-TV, McDonald's, NM Department of Health, Presbyterian Health Plan, Molina Health Plan, and Lovelace Sandia.

Shots for Tots to Teens photo gallery

Top to bottom: Face painter at North Valley Community Health Center, crowds at First Choice South Valley, a family of three children waiting for immunizations at First Choice Alamosa, NMIC staff member's daughter getting up to date on shots, kids enjoying treats at North Valley Community Health Center. Photos courtesy of NMIC.



NMSIIS Update

The New Mexico Statewide Immunization Information System (NMSIIS) will be introduced to VFC providers beginning in late 2005/early 2006. Information about NMSIIS is now available online at:

www.health.state.nm.us/immunize/nmsiis.html

Please review this site and take the time to fill out the **Online Provider Survey**. The survey can be directly opened and completed by typing the following address in your Web browser (You must have the free Adobe Reader 7.0 installed (www.adobe.com) to open and complete the survey):

www.health.state.nm.us/immunize/Pages/Provider/NMSIIS/nmsiissurvey.html

By filling out and submitting this survey, you will assist the NMSIIS team in preparing to bring your practice onto the system.

Calendar of upcoming events

October

- 10/11 noon, Judy Schmidt, RN, EdD, influenza presentation
UNM College of Nursing/Pharmacy Room 357
- 10/12, Judy Schmidt, RN, EdD, influenza presentation
Las Cruces, location TBA
- 10/20, NMIC Steering Committee meeting, 2:30-4:30

November

- 11/16, NMIC Steering Committee meeting, 2:30-4:30

December

- 12/2 NMIC Coalition meeting and third anniversary celebration,
Marriott Pyramid, Albuquerque, 11-3

January

- NMIC Steering Committee meeting, date TBA



NMIC member, Karen Sakala of La Clinica de Familia Medical Center with cuddly incentives helping to improve NM's immunization rates.

NM Immunization Coalition News is published quarterly. Please contact Maggie June at 505-272-3032 or via email at mjune@salud.unm.edu if you have any questions or have an item to submit for the newsletter.



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