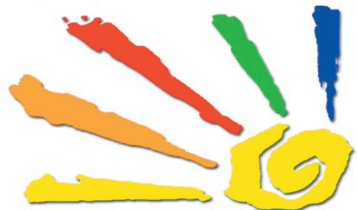


IMMUNIZE
OUR KIDS
VACUNEMOS
NUESTROS
NIÑOS



New Mexico
IMMUNIZATION
COALITION

NM Immunization Coalition *News*

Fall 2006
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We're getting New Mexico's kids immunized!

By Eileen Goode

New Mexico Primary Care Association

On Saturday, August 12, sixty-seven rural and urban healthcare providers in twenty-seven counties opened their doors to New Mexico's children to give age-appropriate immunizations. This year's event provided over 6,200 immunizations to more than 2,700 children at no cost to parents — the largest number of shots given through Shots for Tots to Teens (STT) in its nine-year history!

Nurses, doctors, clerks, and lots of volunteers — including help from the UNM College of Pharmacy students — all combined to make this year's Shots for Tots to Teens event a huge success. The Barbara Richardson Blue Cross Blue Shield Van was on-site at the Karl Malone car dealership to provide an extra clinic in the Northeast Heights in Albuquerque. Many clinics partnered with local Public Health Offices, school

nurses, and local businesses to make this a fun, community event.

KOAT-TV, our media partner, provided news coverage on the day before and the day of the event. Advertisements in the weeks leading up to the event and a listing of clinics on KOAT's website helped parents know where they could take their children for immunizations. In addition, an 800 hotline provided information on participating clinics. The hotline was staffed for the two weeks before the event and received over 200 calls.



Helpers at the Karl Malone dealership clinic in Albuquerque (left to right): Michel Disco, Assistant Dean, UNM College of Pharmacy, Summer Schroeder and Samantha Feldner, UNM pharmacy students, Rosie Clifford, SHOT Team Nurse

The majority of children immunized during STT were 7–18 years old. Fifty percent had no insurance coverage, and at least 130 Medicaid Eligibility applications were initiated during the event. STT helps children get caught up with their immunizations just in time for school registration. It's also a great way to connect families with their local health care providers and get them signed up for Medicaid if they are uninsured and meet eligibility requirements.

This year for the first time, the NM Statewide Immunization Information System (NMSIIS) was utilized at several sites during STT and proved to

be enormously helpful when a child's complete shot record was unavailable. In one case, as a result of using NMSIIS,

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NMIC members

Honorary Chair:

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Margy Wienbar

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
Doña Ana Immunization Coalition
GlaxoSmithKline Vaccines
Greater Albuquerque Immunization Network (GAIN)
Indian Health Service
La Clinica de Familia Medical Center
Lovelace
Merck Vaccine Division
Molina Healthcare, Inc.
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 Health 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

Photo gallery



NMIC August 25 meeting at

Albuquerque Marriott Pyramid North

(clockwise from top): First Lady Barbara Richardson, Dr. Paul Roth and Barak Wolff, Dr. Cosette Wheeler, James Leyba, Judy Knott and Cathy Powers, Kathe Byrne, Gaspar Laca and Diane Jay, Anna Pentler, Carolyn Montoya and John Polinko.

Immunize Kids, *cont'd from page*

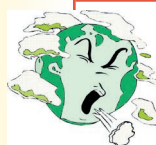
a foster child received only four immunizations rather than the eight it appeared were needed on incomplete records. Another child whose record had been destroyed in a fire happily did not have to receive duplicate vaccinations because of records in NMSIIS.

The NMIC, NMPCA, Molina Healthcare, Lovelace and Presbyterian Health Systems provided incentives that were given to the children. The giveaways included school supplies, pencil packets, coloring books and

crayons, rubber duckies, stickers, toothbrushes and memo boards.

Local businesses also contributed food and other items to the clinics.

Special thanks to our co-sponsors: NMIC, NMPCA, KOAT-TV, NM Department of Health, Karl Malone Superstore, Baillio's, Lovelace, Molina Healthcare, Presbyterian, and Blue Cross Blue Shield of NM. Shots for Tots to Teens is jointly coordinated by the New Mexico Immunization Coalition and the New Mexico Primary Care Association.



Now is the time to "Whip the Whoop"

Phase I of "Whip the Whoop" is now underway. NMIC has created a brochure for healthcare workers to

inform them of the new Tdap vaccine and the need to vaccinate high priority/high risk groups. We have also assembled a 30-minute presentation that is available to inform

healthcare personnel about Pertussis and Tdap. Contact Anna Pentler (272-5796 or apentler@unm.edu) if you would like to schedule a presentation or order some brochures.

NMSIIS — Where are we now?

By Bonnie Thornton, RN
NMSIIS Program Manager

As previously reported, NMSIIS is filled with 5-10 years of immunization data gathered from private VFC providers' Part B forms, Public Health (INPHORM) and Medicaid data. Part B's have been the required documentation for all VFC providers for many years. The scannable forms are verified for accuracy and then get electronically transferred into NMSIIS.

When NMSIIS users document shots directly into the system they eliminate the need to submit Part B forms. Shot records can be printed out for clinic and client documentation.

With at least 10 million historical shots already in NMSIIS, users discover that when they look up a client's record, they often find it! About 125 sites and 500 users are now trained.

The increased use allows us to learn more about how the system is working. Users report the joy of locating a child's data who comes to their clinic with no record. Equally gratifying are the stories of clients who have incomplete records but NMSIIS show shots given at another VFC site helping to avoid over immunization.

We've also identified problems with some data in the system that was not evident with the small scale use of the original pilot sites. Addressing these issues to provide quality data, user support and ongoing training are key elements of the NMSIIS program.

We're accepting registrations through October 13 for a 4-hour training class in Albuquerque on October 24 and 25. Email us at DOH-HelpDesk-Main@state.nm.us or call 1-800-280-1618, option 1.

2005 NIS survey results

CDC released the 2005 National Immunization Survey (NIS) results on 9/15/06. After rising to 83.5% the previous period, New Mexico has dipped to 78.4% of toddlers completing the 4:3:1:3:3 series by age two. CDC is now including varicella in the list of vaccines children should have completed by age two, bringing New Mexico's rate to 74.6% and our ranking to 30th in the nation.

The NIS is an annual survey of approx. 400 children ages 19-35 mo. that estimates immunization coverage rates. For 2005, only 230 children were surveyed in our state. The smaller sample makes the margin of error fairly wide (+/- 7%), so it's possible that the decrease is not statistically significant. However, NMIC is redoubling our efforts to raise awareness about the importance of immunizations and to decrease the barriers to immunization of New Mexico's children. We won't stop till we reach the top!

SHOT BRIEFS

Herpes Zoster (Shingles)

Note: The ACIP has not yet made recommendations for the Herpes Zoster vaccine, Zostavax (Merck), however an interim Vaccine Information Sheet was released on 9/11/06. The information from the VIS is based primarily on the manufacturer's package insert. The final VIS could differ from the interim version.

The shingles vaccine, Zostavax, was licensed in May 2006. In clinical trials the vaccine prevented shingles in about half of people 60 years of age and older. It can also reduce the pain associated with shingles for those who developed the disease despite being vaccinated.

A single dose of shingles vaccine is indicated for adults ages 60 and older. At this time it is not indicated for younger age groups. Approximately 20% of people who have had varicella (chickenpox) or the varicella vaccine will get shingles (which is a reactivation on the varicella virus) at some point in their lifetime. Shingles is characterized by clusters of blisters, which develop on one side of the body. The rash usually lasts 7 to 10 days and can be accompanied by fever, headache, chills and upset stomach. Of those who

get shingles, 20% will develop post-herpetic neuralgia, an extremely painful condition that can last months or even years after the rash of shingles has cleared up.

Shingles is not contagious, but can cause chickenpox in non-immune people. Shingles incidence rises with age and in people with weakened immune systems. At least 500,000 people each year in the U.S. get shingles. Shingles vaccine is **not** recommended for:

- Persons who have ever had a life-threatening allergic reaction to gelatin, neomycin or any other component of the shingles vaccine.
- Persons with weakened immune system due to: HIV/AIDS, treatment with drugs that affect the immune system, cancer treatment such as radiation or chemotherapy, or history of cancer affecting bone marrow or lymphatic system.
- Persons with active, untreated tuberculosis.
- Women who are pregnant or might be pregnant.

To see the full VIS or the FDA news release:

<http://www.cdc.gov/nip/publications/VIS/default.htm#shingles>

<http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2006/NEW01378.html>

Calendar of upcoming events

October

10/2, Minigrant review, 1pm, Presbyterian Health Services office
 10/19, NMIC Steering Committee meeting, 2:30-4:30

November

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

December

12/8, NMIC Fourth Anniversary Celebration,
 Albuquerque Marriott Pyramid North

January

1/18, NMIC Steering Committee meeting, 2:30-4:30

February

2/15, NMIC Steering Committee meeting, 2:30-4:30



Shots for Tots to Teens volunteers in front of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Care Van used at the Karl Malone Superstore. The dealership participated as both a clinic site and a sponsor.

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.



THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
 HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

New Mexico Immunization Coalition
 Office of the Executive Vice President for Health Sciences
 MSC09 5300
 1000 Stanford Drive NE
 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87131

