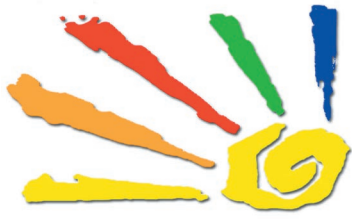


IMMUNIZE  
OUR KIDS  
VACUNEMOS  
NUESTROS  
NIÑOS



New Mexico  
IMMUNIZATION  
COALITION

# NM Immunization Coalition *News*

Winter, 2005  
Volume 2, No. 2

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## NMIC Celebrates its Third Anniversary!

By **Anna Pentler, MPH, MBA**

*Executive Director of NMIC*

**O**n December 2<sup>nd</sup>, the New Mexico Immunization Coalition held its third anniversary meeting and celebration, and there were certainly many accomplishments to celebrate (see page two).

Over sixty members attended the meeting. Lane Wake, an epidemiologist with Colorado's Immunization Program, gave a keynote presentation on Colorado's immunization situation and the steps they have undertaken to better understand their low immunization rates. She provided an excellent overview of the data Colorado has collected and their activities to address the low coverage rates.

Over a delicious holiday lunch, we recognized a few people including two outgoing members of the NMIC Steering Committee, Barak Wolff and Theresa Tsosie Robledo, and Maggie June, Administrative Assistant to the NMIC for her excellent work on the NMIC publications. Dr. Lance Chilton gave a slide presentation on his trip to Sri Lanka, where he recently volunteered to

provide medical assistance to victims of the tsunami. It was a fascinating and enlightening talk with great photos and maps.

After lunch, Dr. Maggi Gallaher gave an overview of New Mexico's pandemic flu plan. The Department of Health held a pandemic planning summit on October 29<sup>th</sup> during which health care providers and community members provided input for the statewide plan. NM's plan is modeled after the national plan, which has recently been released.

During the afternoon, NMIC subcommittees reported on activities and progress. Steve Nickell and Cleve Bryant gave a demonstration of NMSIIS and explained

the rollout process and timeline. Approximately ten sites will first pilot test the system to work out any kinks. Then other providers will be encouraged to register to be users and receive training. It's very exciting to see the system actually coming into use.

Several mini-grant recipients gave short presentations on the innovative ways they have used their mini-grant funds. Karen Sakala reported on the baby photo/baby book project

in La Clinica de la Familia clinics; Kathy Lopez-Bushnell displayed the card swipe machine used to track health care worker flu shots at University Hospital; Marianne Panzini Rosenthal showed the immunization directory published by the Doña Ana County Immunization Coalition. All

**NMIC Celebrates** *continued on page 2*



*Marriott Pyramid North provided a beautiful meeting room for NMIC's celebration*

## NMIC members

**Honorary Chair:**

First Lady Barbara Richardson

**Co-Chairs:**

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
- 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

# New Mexico's Immunization Accomplishments

**#15 in the US**

New Mexico improved its childhood immunization rate from 75.2% to 83.5% and national ranking from 44th to 15th

**National Recognition**

New Mexico received national recognition for being the most improved state in the nation over the past four years

**New Mexico was selected to be the Kick-Off state** for the nation for National Infant Immunization Week last April

**Cutting edge presentations**

We hosted several nationally-renowned immunization experts including: Dr. Kenneth Moritsugu, Deputy Surgeon General; Dr. Paul Offit, Director, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; Dr. Stephen Cochi, Acting Director, National Immunization Program, CDC; Dr. Judith Schmidt, Educator, National Immunization Program, CDC; Dr. Gary Overturf, UNM

**"Done by One"**

CDC is actively promoting New Mexico's "Done By One" childhood schedule in other states. At least two other states have already implemented it

**"Shots for Tots to Teens" success**

New Mexico immunized over 2040 children with over 3640 shots during the annual Shots for Tots to Teens events statewide

**Mini-grant success**

New Mexico disseminated over \$40,000 this year in two rounds of mini-grants funding 22 local immunization projects

**NM SIIS**

New Mexico is poised to roll out the New Mexico Statewide Immunization Information System

**High provider IZ rates**

Forty providers statewide were honored for having immunization rates 90% and above

**NMIC Celebrates** *continued from front page*

are worthy and interesting ways to continue to improve New Mexico's Immunization rates.

All in all it was a festive and

informative meeting. The NMIC appreciates the ongoing support from all the members and looks forward to another action-packed year.

## NMSIIS Update for Providers

The New Mexico Statewide Immunization Information System (NMSIIS) is nearly ready to go live. Here's what VFC providers need to know to be part of this exciting advance for New Mexico's children. The only equipment required is a computer with internet connection. High-speed connection is preferred although a dial-up connection will work.

NMSIIS will rollout in two phases. Phase I begins this winter with ten or so practices being trained and given access to NMSIIS. In the Spring, other providers and users will be brought on. Experience gained in Phase I will be used to fine-tune the Spring open enrollment and training of providers.

The first step in enrollment is for your

practice to submit the provider survey which is at [www.health.state.nm.us/immunize/Pages/Provider/NMSIIS/NMSIISsurvey.html](http://www.health.state.nm.us/immunize/Pages/Provider/NMSIIS/NMSIISsurvey.html). The survey can be submitted online, or printed and mailed to NMSIIS staff— address on survey form. VFC providers will receive an enrollment packet by mail or can download enrollment documents. Classroom training sessions will be held across New Mexico beginning next Spring. Each practice will need to one volunteer to coordinate NMSIIS access for their site and train site users. On-site training in provider offices may be available in some cases, and phone help desk assistance will be available to enrolled providers.

Providers will need to submit immunization data to NMSIIS on a timely basis (2-3 weeks after administration) so that information will be available for the next patient visit. Options for submitting data:

- Manual entry of data into NMSIIS using the Web interface— no Part B forms need to be submitted.
- Upload of immunization information data extracts from provider's existing electronic medical record (EMR) or billing data— no Part B forms need to be submitted.
- Bidirectional data exchange between provider EMR and NMSIIS using HL7 messaging— no Part B forms need to be submitted.
- Submission of completed scannable Part B forms to the DOH for scanning and upload to NMSIIS.

For more information, visit the expanded website at [www.health.state.nm.us/immunize/nmsiis.htm](http://www.health.state.nm.us/immunize/nmsiis.htm). Questions about NMSIIS can be directed to Steve Nickell, Immunization Program Manager, at 505-827-2463 or Cleve Bryant, NMSIIS Project Director, at 505-827-2430.

## SHOT BRIEFS

**Tdap for adults** The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommended that adults receive a booster dose of Tdap in place of the tetanus-diphtheria (Td) booster if they have not received a Td booster dose in ten or more years. Tdap should also be given to adults who will have close contact with an infant less than 12 months of age, ideally at least one month before beginning close contact with infants. In situations where it is important to protect against pertussis, intervals shorter than 10 years since the last Td vaccination may be used. A minimum 2 year interval between Td and Tdap is suggested to reduce the risk of reactions following vaccination. An update to the provisional recommendations for adults just came out. See the provisional ACIP recommendations at: [http://www.cdc.gov/nip/recs/provisional\\_rec/default.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nip/recs/provisional_rec/default.htm). Also, there is an update to the provisional adolescent recommendations at this link: [http://www.cdc.gov/nip/vaccine/tdap/tdap\\_child\\_rec.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nip/vaccine/tdap/tdap_child_rec.pdf)

**MMRV Quadrivalent Vaccine** The official ACIP recommendations on the use of the newly licensed measles, mumps, rubella, varicella combination vaccine, ProQuad (Merck) have not been posted yet. MMRV vaccine

is indicated for simultaneous vaccination against measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella among children aged 12 months-12 years; MMRV is not indicated for persons outside of this age group. Use of licensed combination vaccines, such as MMRV vaccine, is preferred over separate injection of equivalent component vaccines as it can reduce the number of injections when administered to children aged 1-12 years for whom (1) the first dose of MMR and varicella vaccines is indicated and (2) the second dose of MMR and either the first or second dose (e.g., during a varicella outbreak) of varicella vaccine are indicated. MMRV vaccine is administered subcutaneously as a single 0.5-mL dose. MMRV must be stored in the freezer (like varicella vaccine). For more information, consult the package insert at [www.fda.gov/cber/label/mmrvmr090605LB.pdf](http://www.fda.gov/cber/label/mmrvmr090605LB.pdf). The New Mexico VFC program expects to be able to provide Proquad in the coming months. A contract is currently being negotiated with the manufacturer and the CDC.

**Hepatitis A Vaccine** The ACIP has lowered the age for administering Hepatitis A vaccine from 2 years to 12 months.

**Influenza** Flu season is underway. New Mexico has recently seen its first cases of flu. The public is encouraged to get influenza vaccine throughout the season, and flu vaccine is still available. Consult the NMRRRA web page <http://www.nmivc.org/> to locate clinics around New Mexico.

# Calendar of upcoming events

## January

1/19, NMIC Steering Committee meeting, 2:30-4:30

## February

2/16, NMIC Steering Committee strategic planning meeting, 12-5pm

## March

3/6-9, National Immunization Conference, Atlanta

3/16, NMIC Steering Committee meeting, 2:30-4:30

## April

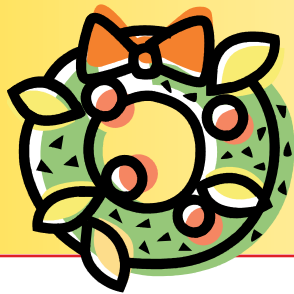
NMIC meeting, date TBA

4/22 - 4/29 National Infant Immunization Week events



*NMIC Steering Committee member, Dr. Lance Chilton speaks on his volunteer experience in Sri Lanka.*

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



# Wishing all Happy Holidays!



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