

## **Immunization Section Teleconference Minutes**

Date: November 16, 2011

Present: Jan Bloom, Robert Grenwelge, Val Koch, Lisa Wordeman, John Anderson, Kathy Gaines, Kathy Strang, and Karoleigh Cassel

Facilitator – Jan Bloom

*Minutes submitted by Karoleigh Cassel, Immunization Section Administrative Specialist*

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### **Wyoming Immunization Registry (WyIR) Update by John:**

The registry was experiencing connectivity issues, but WyIR is working with the software vendor to get the issues resolved.

New quick start guides have been posted to the WyIR link on the immunization website [www.immunizewyoming.com](http://www.immunizewyoming.com). The new guides are: Getting Started, Patients, Vaccinations, and Access Levels. There are also two new guides for interface users, one for Health Level 7 (HL7) and one for Data Translation Tools (DDT).

### **Clinical Updates by Val:**

Reminder-December 4-10, 2011 is the CDC's National Influenza Week. This event highlights the importance of flu vaccinations. Healthcare providers can access the CDC website <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/NIVW/index.htm> to download promotional materials.

ACIP recommends a higher dose of flu vaccine for older adults (65 and older) for better results.

The CDC has new a vaccine storage and handling guide available on the CDC website (updated in September 2011) <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/storage/guide/vaccine-storage-handling.pdf>.

Reminder-WyVIP providers can go to Vaccine Adverse Reporting System (VAERS) to report reactions in patients, and keep a copy of the report on file in their office.

There are new Vaccine Information Statements (VIS) posted on the CDC website for [Meningococcal](#), [Hepatitis A](#) and [Polio](#).

ACIP has approved the administration of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine for boys (Gardasil only). Currently HPV vaccine is not available through WyVIP and can only be administered to VFC eligible children.

Current Issues in Immunization-Influenza Update, a net conference with the CDC is scheduled for December 1, 2011. Anyone interested in more information or wanting to register can go to <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/ciinc/#next>.

Highlights from Vaccinology Course in Atlanta, GA, attended by Val and Diana:

- Quote from conference, “When prevention works, nothing happens!”
- Tdap should be given to pregnant women (3<sup>rd</sup> trimester or late 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester) rather than given postpartum.
- Flu vaccines-Egg allergy only a precaution, not a contraindication.
- According to the latest HealthyStyles Survey from the American Academy of Pediatrics, parents cited these concerns in regards to getting their children immunized: Pain with injection (#1 concern), necessity of getting immunized, safety of vaccines, increased number of injections.

There has been an increase in the number of local reactions when administering two vaccines, the MCV4 and other Diphtheria containing vaccines. If they are given on the same day, they need to be given in separate sites. Otherwise they should be given 30 days apart.

- Infant vaccination with meningococcal vaccine-The amount of potentially preventable disease is low in infants. Morbidity in infants is lower than in other age groups. High coverage in adolescence may protect infants.
- Every day 11,000 people become Medicare eligible
- New approaches to boost immunity in older adults:
  - Adjuvants augment the immune response and higher doses of flu vaccine are more effective.
  - Enhancing protection by immunizing children (Community Immunity!)
  - Affordable Care Act-private insurance coverage of immunizations may show a 3.5% increase in insurance coverage for young adults.

Providers are reminded that if they have the Immunization Section’s barcode scanners and are not using them, to please return the scanners to the Immunization Section as soon as possible so that they can be re-distributed to other interested providers.

Providers on the teleconference were asked whether or not the Immunization Section should continue having teleconferences, and the consensus was that providers still find them to be beneficial.

### **Vaccine Program Updates by Lisa:**

Reminders for Providers-

Please try to use the short-dated Td and MCV4 vaccines indicated in a recent memo. The short-dated vaccines have been opened up to Non-VFC eligible children. If providers are not sure which lot numbers are indicated, please contact LaChel May, Provider Relations Administrative Assistant at 307-777-8503.

**Questions and Answers:**

Will Wyoming remain Universal Select or someday go back to Universal? This is something the Immunization Section has no answer to at this time. The Immunization Section has requested more funding from the legislature, but does not know if the additional funding request will be approved or if it will cover all of the vaccines recommended.

Can providers use the sort-dated vaccines on adult staff members? No. VFC and WyVIP vaccines can only be used on children up to the day before the 19<sup>th</sup> birthday.

How can a provider determine who to bill in a dual eligibility situation (Medicaid and American Indian, for example)? Providers should look at which billing would be less burdensome on the family.

**The next teleconference is January 18, 2012 at 12:15 pm.**