

Immunization Program Teleconference Minutes

Date: January 16, 2013

Present-Lisa Wordeman, Karoleigh Cassel, LaChel May, John Anderson, Kathy Strang, Val Koch, Diana Martin, Jude Serrano, Robert Grenwelge

Facilitator – Lisa Wordeman, Immunization Program Manager

Minutes submitted by Karoleigh Cassel, Immunization Program Administrative Specialist

Immunization Program Updates-Lisa

Regional Trainings 2013-There will be 4 regional trainings for providers in Cheyenne (March 7, 2013), Casper (March 12, 2013), Thermopolis (March 14, 2013), and Rock Springs (March 20, 2013). Providers can click on the green box on the Immunization Program website to find more information about the Regional Trainings and to register online. The trainings differ this year, in that they are only half a day, with breakout sessions available in the afternoon. Due to the trainings falling on the date of the March provider teleconference, the March teleconference is canceled.

Influenza Vaccine Shortage-Due to a shortage in flu vaccine, providers are reminded that the flu vaccine supplied by the Vaccine Program is for VFC-eligible patients only.

Clinical Updates-Val

Flu Update-There has been High ILI activity reported in 24 states and New York City. Forty-seven state reported widespread geographic influenza activity between December 30, 2012 and January 5, 2013.

Since October 1, 2012 there have been 3,710 laboratory confirmed flu-associated hospitalizations reported. Of those, 46% have been in adults 65 years of age and older.

In Wyoming, there have been 2,021 cases of flu reported as of January 5, 2013. Many of the cases were in Campbell County (324), followed by Natrona County (262), Laramie County (250), with the lowest incidence occurring in Niobrara County (2), Hot Springs County (11), and Johnson County (19). Of the 2,021 cases, 492 have been with children aged 5 to 10 years, with only 151 cases in adults 65 years of age or older. There have been 20 pediatric deaths this flu season.

Overall flu vaccine effectiveness is about 62%, meaning that if someone is vaccinated; they are 62% less likely to get the flu that requires them to go to the doctor.

Flu vaccines include about 90% of the strains circulating, with the remaining 10% being a second influenza B.

Vaccine coverage surveys show that only 37% of Americans have received their flu vaccinations by mid-November 2012. This is on track with what we saw in the previous year. In the past few

weeks, immunizations have increased, so the percentage will increase. Final numbers will be available in March.

Quadrivalent FluMist®-Next flu season, a quadrivalent FluMist® will be available, containing 2 Influenza A's and 2 Influenza B's. The current flu epidemic is caused by A and both B strains (Yamagata and Victoria lineages). The vaccine was well-matched for 3 strains this year. There is little to no cross-protection between the two B lineages. Flu vaccine contains the right B lineage 50% of the time. A quadrivalent vaccine could help protect against 2 Influenza A subtypes and 2 Influenza B lineages. The FluMist® quadrivalent vaccine is approved for eligible persons ages 2 through 49.

Vaccine Program Updates-Jude

VFC/WyVIP Provider Training Series-Recently a fax was sent to VFC/WyVIP providers announcing the Provider Training Series, which is now available on the Vaccine Program website. The training presentations cover monthly reporting, vaccine orders, transfers, returns, short-dated vaccine, wasted vaccine, and borrowing vaccine. The PowerPoint presentations provide step-by-step guidance on program requirements and VOMS activities. The trainings include screen shots and step-by-step instructions. Providers are encouraged to reference these resources prior to calling the Immunization Program for process walk-throughs.

Updated Vaccine Program Web Page-All of the 2013 VFC/WyVIP provider forms have been posted to the Vaccine Program portion of the Immunization website. The manual forms have been removed, as the forms for inventory, doses administered, and orders are no longer necessary or accepted. The Vaccine Program has posted a list on their web page of the Official State Holidays, so that providers are aware of which days are exempt from temperature log recordings. This is in response to the numerous temperature logs received during the holiday season with missing recordings.

Influenza Update-The Vaccine Program is currently out of the FluMist® and .25 Fluzone® vaccines, but the other flu vaccines are well-stocked. There are several providers who have .25 Fluzone® to transfer out, so providers can still continue placing orders for this vaccine and a vaccine transfer can be facilitated.

Pentacel®-The shortage of Pentacel® continues, however, providers are encouraged to send an email to Jude Serrano at jude.serrano1@wyo.gov if they need a few doses.

Temperature Logs-The Vaccine Program continues to receive outdated versions of the temperature logs. Providers that consistently submit outdated temperature logs will be asked to re-submit using the most up-to-date version. Failure to submit correct forms may cause an order delay. Temperature logs not received by the closure of the order cycle-the 1st through 5th day of the month-will result in a rejected order, and is considered a non-compliance issue. The newest version of the temperature log now has a place to record minimum/maximum (min/max) temperatures. Min/max temperatures are only necessary if they are readily available. Providers are not expected to download data loggers every day to get the min/max temperatures. Min/max temperatures only need to be recorded once a day. The Vaccine Program thanks everyone who submitted questions about the initial version as this helped us to make improvements.

2013 Enrollment-The 2012 VFC/WyVIP Provider contracts expire February 28, 2013. This year, contracts will be sent to the primary contact to manage rather than the primary physician, but will still require the signature of the primary physician/practitioner. A blast fax will be sent out to providers when the contracts are mailed out. State PHN agreements will be mailed out to office next week, with the remainder of contracts being sent out in the next few weeks. All contracts must be received by February 28, 2013. Missed deadlines may result in order suspensions, pulled vaccine, and a change of provider status to inactive. The contracts will arrive in a white envelope with a fluorescent burst sticker in the bottom right corner. Providers are reminded to watch for it.

WyIR Updates-John

Enrollment Process-John Anderson and Kathy Strang recently sent out emails to primary contacts with updates, providing organizations with a 2013 certificate of participation in the registry. The last email was sent out at the tail-end of the enrollment process. We had some questions from providers, letting us know their certificate had expired and when their new certificates would be sent out. In regards to what we did in last year's enrollment, we are working on clarifying the WyIR enrollment. However, at this time we are unable to align the Vaccine Program enrollment with the WyIR enrollment process. We are looking to incorporate the collection of the information that we both need. One of the improvements that we are looking at is trying to provide an update to the process for enrollment in the registry that will allow providers to go in and directly enter their information into the registry and then the data can be exported into a database, where the data can be flipped around to whatever format is needed. Hopefully the process will be approved. We are just trying to work with our Attorney General to get it in place. With the information that providers pre-populate in the registry, ideally we can populate the agreement and send it to providers. Hopefully all providers will need to do is digitally sign or fax it in with signature. It hasn't been approved yet, but we are trying to pursue a new signature process for the enrollment agreement.

Changes Starting February 1, 2013-WyIR staff has scheduled data quality reports to be sent to primary contacts. The reports will be the Vaccination Breakdown, Provider Submission Detail, Vaccination Data Quality, and the Data Quality by Organization/Facility. Once providers get the report by the first of the month, they see an overview of their data quality from the previous month. Providers can take the data to address certain data quality issues. The WyIR staff can provide further guidance on how providers may be able to use these reports in the future. On February 1, 2013 new password requirements go into effect. Users will not experience a hard stop to what they are doing, but the next time will be prompted to update the password. After February 1, providers will be given a stakeholder's survey. We are asking for feedback on how providers use the registry, what they find effective and what additional areas they may need training on. The survey link will not be activated until after the data quality reports are sent, so that we can get provider feedback on how the reports look.

Health Level 7 (HL7) Guide-The new HL7 guide has been posted to the WyIR portion of the immunization website. We also have a policy in place with the Total Health Record (THR) that states any kind of additional interfaces that want to connect to the registry have to connect through THR. We are working with the Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) team to clarify

what that process will look like. We realize with the onboarding of a few providers, something needs to be there to ensure data quality for the immunization records going into the registry. The goal is to have a template and to give providers good information on how to get connected.

Changes in Staff - John welcomes Kathy Strang, who has worked with the Immunization Program in different capacities. Now she will be working with John on numerous items with the registry and has helped update a few things and will be in charge of the version testing process as soon as we get that in place. We have a new WyIR version which she will begin testing soon. Any providers interested in getting the newer version of the registry, please let John know if they are interested in version testing. We want to make sure that everything is very good before we put it out there so we have no surprises. Providers interested in version testing can contact John Anderson at 307-777-5773 or email john.anderson@wyo.com. Farewell to Kathy Gaines, she is leaving the program at end of month. She has been a great asset as a Quality and Compliance Specialist and has helped to get data consolidated from various years for immunization rates. She will be missed but will enjoy her retirement in the snowy mountains.

Reminder: We will not be having a teleconference in March, but we hope to see providers out at the regional trainings in Cheyenne, Casper, Thermopolis, and Rock Springs.