

Needle News



Eastern Idaho Public Health District's New Immunization mascot; Booster Bird, who is a Blue Bird from Idaho.

Idaho's Immunization Rates

- Idaho's estimated coverage rate of 66.3 (\pm 6.4) % placed us in the bottom quartile of all states. Recently re-released mid-year 2011 NIS data estimates Idaho's coverage rate is now 63.7(\pm 7)%. This is not a statistically significant rate change, but the point estimate now places us last in the nation for this vaccine series. 2010 Rates for Idaho are 42 %
 - We are encouraging healthcare providers to place a priority on completing vaccinations and getting Children, teens, and adults up to date on their vaccinations. Common Issues
 - No 2nd Hep A
 - Time Interval Between Vaccines
 - Pay Particular Attention to PCV 13 & HIB
- 5 TIPS to Increase Office Immunization Rates:**
- ✓ Use Standardized Protocols
 - ✓ Input Immunization Data into IRIS Daily
 - ✓ Use Appointment Reminder Systems
 - ✓ Immunize at Every Opportunity
 - ✓ Use IRIS's Reminder Recall system to remind parents to get kids back in on time.

IRIS

Idaho's Immunization Reminder Information System (IRIS) will be updated March 1, 2012. HP will be providing the services for IRIS and ensuring all of its functions are working correctly.

IRIS will provide more convenient, beneficial system to Healthcare providers, schools, and daycares.

If you would like to see what IRIS can do for your practice. Please Contact James Corbett, Immunization Coordinator at 533-3223 for more information.

If any questions regarding the new IRIS please contact the Idaho Immunization Program at 208-334-5931 or iris@dhw.idaho.gov

Shots Smarts

Registration for the 2012 Shot Smarts immunization conference is now open online. Registration can be found at

www.immunizaidaho.com. If you have any questions regarding the upcoming immunization conference contact James Corbett.

Melinda Wharton, Deputy Director with the CDC will be the keynote speaker. Idaho will kick off National Infant Immunization week for the entire nation.

ShotSmarts immunization conference

- Idaho Falls
Shilo Inn Suites
April 24th
- Boise
BSU Student Union
April 25th
- Coeur d'Alene
Best Western Coeur d'Alene Inn
April 27th

Online registration will open March 4, 2012 and will close when locations reach capacity



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The Flu is Coming

While there is a late start to the Flu season, it is coming. Flu activity overall continues to be low in Idaho, although there is an increase nation-wide in the flu that is being reported. Please encourage patients to receive the flu vaccine. CDC still recommends to get the Flu vaccine.



Eastern Idaho Immunization Task Force

The immunization task force's responsibility is to try to improve immunization rates by providing immunization education through awareness activities. We would like to invite healthcare providers, office staff, or concerned citizens in the community to be involved in this task force.

Our next meeting will be March 9th at 10:00 at Eastern Idaho Public Health District. For more information contact

Lori Lovell at llovell@phd7.idaho.gov or 533-3219.

Articles of Interest for Immunization Providers

BSU Researcher Juliette Tinker podcast on vaccines: <http://bit.ly/wKD9ma>

New England Journal of Medicine editorial on improving childhood vaccination rates: <http://bit.ly/x7p9VS>

Also Check out Immunize.org for more information/handouts to parents and guardians.

Vaccine Information Statements (VIS)

Barcodes! VISs will soon (we don't know exactly *how* soon) be sporting barcodes, probably on the back, near the date. These will allow providers with the necessary technology to scan the VIS name and edition date into patients' electronic medical records. Look for more information within the next couple months. Use of these barcodes will not be a require-

ment; simply an alternative to entering the information manually. (11/3/11)

- Patients can go to www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/vis-downloads.htm on their mobile device and click on the appropriate link to download that VIS.

Immunize.org also has VIS in different languages. They also have great resources for immunization providers.

Current Dates of VIS

Multi-vaccine	9-18-08
Chickenpox	3-13-08
PCV13	4-16-10
DTaP	5-17-07
PPSV	10-6-09
Hepatitis A	10-25-11
Polio	11-8-11
Hepatitis B	2-2-12
Hib	12-16-98
Rotavirus	12-6-10
HPV	2-22-12
Shingles	10-6-09
Influenza	7-26-11
J. enceph.	12-7-11
Td/Tdap	1-24-12
MCV/MPSV	10-14-11
MMR	3-13-08