AIRA MONTHLY UPDATE

AUGUST 2017 IN REVIEW

SEPTEMBER AT AIRA

- September 5th, 2 – 3 pm ET: **Assessment Steering Committee**

- September 6th, 1 – 2 pm ET: **Standards & Interoperability Steering Committee (SISC) Meeting**

- September 8th, 12 – 1 pm ET: **Joint Development & Implementation Advisory Workgroup Meeting**

- September 12th – 14th: **AIRA Board In-person Meeting**

- September 18th, 2 – 3 pm ET: **AIRA Board, Partner & Membership Bimonthly Meeting**

- September 20th, 1 – 2 pm ET: **Education Steering Committee Meeting**

- September 20th, 3 – 4 pm ET: **Awardee-Developed Joint Development & Implementation User Group Meeting**

- September 21st, 2 – 3 pm ET: **HL7 Immunization User Group Meeting**

- September 21st, 4 – 5 pm ET: **MIROW Steering Committee Meeting**

- September 25th, 4 – 5 pm ET: **Discovery Session**

- September 27th, 1 – 2 pm ET: **SISC Technical Workgroup Meeting**

NEW! AIRA RESOURCE AVAILABLE TO HELP COMPARE AND COMMUNICATE NIS AND IIS VACCINATION COVERAGE RESULTS

COMPARING & COMMUNICATING VACCINATION COVERAGE ESTIMATES
From Immunization Information Systems, the National Immunization Survey, and Related Assessments

● immregistries.org
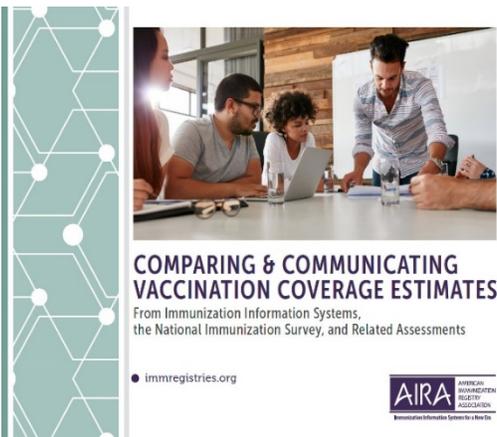
AIRA has recently published a new resource, "Comparing and Communicating Vaccination Coverage Estimates from Immunization Information Systems (IIS), the National Immunization Survey (NIS), and Related Assessments."

This guide helps IIS and immunization program managers and staff interpret and communicate the results of NIS and IIS-based coverage assessments and, to a lesser extent, other related immunization coverage assessments. The guide is easy to read and offers practical tips and tools that can be used to help explain vaccination coverage assessment results to decision makers, such as senior public health leadership, legislators, and the media. New NIS results should be published later this month! We hope you will use this new resource to help you interpret and communicate NIS results – especially in comparing these results to IIS-based vaccination coverage results.

A warm thanks to our valuable workgroup members who spent countless hours developing this resource: Bob Swanson (MI), Heather Roth (CO), Jane Zucker (NYC), Jim Singleton (CDC), Kim Martin (ASTHO), Loren Rodgers (CDC), Rachel Potter (MI), Scott Hamstra (STC), Steve Robison (OR), Sydney Kuramoto (MN), Wendy Wang (San Diego), and AIRA consultant extraordinaire Sherry Riddick. We're also grateful for the AIRA Assessment Steering Committee's direction and support throughout this project.

Thank you workgroup members!

Stay Tuned for the Next Coverage Assessment Project

And a special thanks to all the ASC members who brainstormed ideas for the next project including Erin Roche, Kim Salisbury-Keith (RI), and Loren Rodgers (CDC).

~Submitted by Ketti Turcato, AIRA

REMINDER: JOIN US FOR THE VOLUNTARY CERTIFICATION TOWN HALL MEETING

- Thursday, August 31 at 12 pm ET
- Register HERE to join the webinar

Register Today!

The Measurement for Assessment and Certification Advisory Workgroup (MACAW) invites you to a community wide Town Hall meeting on August 31, 2017 at 12:00 pm ET to discuss the upcoming proposed Voluntary Certification process. Members of MACAW will be discussing Voluntary Certification as the next step in the IIS Measurement and Improvement Initiative. The Town Hall is an opportunity to gather community input and attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions and share comments. If you would like to submit questions or comments in advance, please email them to nlambrecht@immregistries.org. If you plan to share comments verbally during the meeting, please limit comments to 2-3 minutes to allow for broad participation across the community. Voluntary Certification is a proposed process to recognize IIS systems that align with standards. Visit the AIRA website for additional information and resources (e.g., overview document, summary, and FAQs).

~Submitted by Nichole Lambrecht, AIRA

RENEW YOUR AIRA MEMBERSHIP

AIRA's membership is limited to IIS, IIS Implementers, non-profit organizations, or any other individual who is not associated with a for-profit organization. Basic membership is $300 per year. AIRA members also have an opportunity to upgrade to an elevated gold member status ($1,500/year). AIRA membership entitles you to many benefits including:

- Access to SmartyStreets, AIRA's address cleansing and geocoding service for IIS
- 3 individual voting members, 3 non-voting members
  - *Gold members receive 6 non-voting members total*
- 6 discounted registrations to the AIRA 2018 National Meeting and other AIRA-sponsored events
  - *Gold members receive 9 total discounted registrations*
- Use of an AIRA member logo
- Voting privileges
- Recognition on AIRA's website
- Receipt of SnapShots & the AIRA Monthly Update

AIRA 2017-2018 Members
(Updated 8/29/2017)

Thank you to those who have already joined AIRA for the 2017-2018 year, and we hope everyone else will join now as an AIRA member! Please contact Amanda Branham at (202) 552-0189 if you have questions or would like to be emailed a gold membership invoice. Membership payment can also be processed over the phone. AIRA's membership cycle runs October 1st through September 30th annually.

A sincere thank you to our 2017-2018 gold member HLN Consulting, LLC. Additional 2017-2018 AIRA members not represented on the map include the American Pharmacists Association Foundation, Immunization Action Coalition, Public Health Informatics Institute, National Institute of Standards and Technology, University of Michigan Child Health Evaluation and Research Unit, and Victorian Cytology Service Registries.

AIRA'S PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

AIRA's Partnership Program offers an exceptional opportunity for anyone interested in further supporting AIRA's mission and for organizations ineligible to become AIRA members. AIRA Partnership benefits include:

	Premier Partner	Presidential Partner
Discounted registration rates at AIRA meetings	3	6
Access to AIRA Partner Logo	♦	♦
Recognition on AIRA's website by partnership level	♦	♦
Receipt of AIRA publications including SnapShots and AIRA's Monthly Update	♦	♦
Opportunity to submit partner updates in AIRA Monthly Update	♦	♦
Total Cost	$1,500/year	$2,500/year

Partnership runs October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018. All partners are subject to the AIRA Partnership Program Terms and Conditions. In addition to joining AIRA as gold members, Envision Technology Partners has become a Presidential Partner. Cerner Corporation has become a Premier Partner. Please visit AIRA's website to become an AIRA Partner online or contact Amanda Branham at abranham@immregistires.org or (202) 552-0189. We hope you will become an AIRA partner today!

MIROW STRATEGIC PLANNING IN-PERSON MEETING

The Modeling Immunization Registry Operations Workgroup (MIROW) Steering Committee met in-person August 1-3 in Denver, CO. The goal of the meeting was to review the overall MIROW development approach and process while also developing a maintenance and sustainability plan that addresses how best to balance the competing strategies of developing new topics, the need to update previous guidance documents, and the ongoing promotion and evaluation of these products. The successful session was facilitated by Advanced Strategies. The group looks forward to sharing an implementation plan of these new strategies in the coming months. For more information about this workgroup, please see the AIRA MIROW webpage.

From left to right (front row): Tracy Little (OR), Beth Parilla (MN), Amy Metroka (NYC), Faith Bradberry (facilitator), Nichole Lambrecht (AIRA), Amanda Dayton (AIRA)
From left to right (back row): Katie Reed (DXC), Warren Williams (CDC), Gail DeCosta (facilitator), Amanda Harris (NV), Megan Meldrum (NY), Brandy Altstadter (STC), Elaine Lowery (AIRA Consultant), Rebecca Coyle (AIRA), Richard Branton (facilitator), David Lyalin (CDC)

~Submitted by Nichole Lambrecht, AIRA

AIRA STAFF MEETS IN BOISE TO PLAN FOR UPCOMING YEAR

The AIRA staff met for three days in early-August in Boise, Idaho to review organizational priorities, discuss progress on strategies for AIRA's Cooperative Agreements and plan for the upcoming year. In addition, AIRA welcomed Justine DaCosta as AIRA's new Program Coordinator.

~Submitted by Amanda Branham, AIRA

CDC ALL-AWARDEE MEETING HELD IN ATLANTA

CDC held their 2017 Immunization Awardee Meeting (IAM) on August 23-25 at the Global Communications Center at the Clifton CDC Campus. The theme of the meeting "IAM Moving the Needle" was intended to remind the immunization community that our work across the immunization field has a significant impact the well-being of our communities and society as a whole.

The meeting brought together Immunization Program Managers and staff, IIS Managers and staff, partners such as Indian Health Services (IHS), AIRA and the Association of Immunization Managers (AIM), CDC staff and Public Health Advisors (PHAs), and others to hear about and discuss current topics, many of which were extremely relevant to the IIS community. Not surprisingly, funding was a critical topic of discussion. Dr. Nancy Messonnier and Alexander Harrington from the Office of the Director at NCIRD underscored that more information will be shared as the President's proposed budget moves through Congress toward appropriations.

Staff from the IIS Support Branch Operations Team facilitated several popular sessions, including:
- A discussion on IIS Sustainability, focusing on opportunities to access and leverage 90/10 match funds and creative partnerships with Medicaid, health plans and health systems.
- Presentations on IIS-EHR interoperability that included overviews from Nebraska, North Dakota, Arizona, Louisiana, and Kansas.
- A panel on transitioning to a new IIS, with panelists representing California, New Mexico and Texas.

All five Branch Chiefs, including our IISSB Branch Chief Warren Williams, provided summary successes from the 2013-2017 Cooperative Agreement period; for IIS, these highlights included increased interoperability accelerated by Meaningful Use, the growth of vaccine management functions in IIS prompted by VTrckS ExIS interfaces, increases in standardization

resulting from stronger standards and measurement efforts, and expanding data use opportunities through AFIX functionality.

CDC announced during the meeting that awardees can access all presentations from the IAM sessions on the CDC Sharepoint site following the meeting.

> *~Submitted by Mary Beth Kurilo, AIRA*

ASSESSMENT STEERING COMMITTEE'S REQUEST FOR MATERIALS

The Assessment Steering Committee (ASC) is launching the third phase in an initiative to research IIS data quality processes in place today. The ASC is requesting any written materials your IIS has developed around data quality policies, protocols, and/or methods for data at rest (in the database) and your feedback on the scope of this project via this short survey.

TAKE SURVEY ▶
Please respond to the survey and/or send any materials to Nichole Lambrecht **preferably by September 8, 2017.**

In addition, the project will be enlisting subject matter experts (SMEs), with the guidance from a public health consultant, to review existing materials and develop recommendations for this project. This SME workgroup will meet virtually and will include conference calls and some homework. **If you have expertise with monitoring and evaluation of data at rest or know of someone that you think should be considered for this workgroup please send your/their name, title, organization, and a brief summary of their duties as they relate to this topic to** Nichole Lambrecht **by September 8, 2017.** Space is limited so accepted participants will be contacted by the end of September.

> *~Submitted by Nichole Lambrecht, AIRA*

CDSI CORNER: SUPPORTING DATA AND TEST CASES

The CDSi project released updated Supporting Data and Test Cases on August 25, 2017. The updated resources reflect the new 2017-18 Influenza recommendations along with some clarification updates to Tetanus, Diphtheria, Polio, and Yellow Fever. The updates can be found on the CDSi landing page. Any questions can be directed to Eric Larson.

> *~Submitted by Eric Larson, AIRA*

GOLD MEMBER HIGHLIGHT: NEW VERSION OF HLN'S OPEN SOURCE IMMUNIZATION FORECASTER RELEASED

A new release (v1.8.2.0) of the Immunization Calculation Engine (ICE) is now available. (Download ICE v 1.8.2.0). ICE is a state-of-the-art open-source software system that provides clinical decision support for immunizations (CDSi) for use in Immunization Information Systems (IIS), Electronic Health Record (EHR) and Personal Health Record (PHR) Systems.
The release includes the following changes:

- Updates to the Polio Vaccine Group and the Meningococcal ACWY Vaccine Group to better reflect latest guidelines, and addition of Influenza vaccine (CVX 185 and 186) to the Influenza Vaccine Group.
- Combines PCV and PPSV vaccine groups into one, new vaccine group for Pneumococcal. This change was made to better account for shots administered across the patient's lifetime. (To support this new Pneumococcal vaccine group, implementers may need to make adjustments to stop looking for the old PCV and PPSV vaccine group codes (700 and 720), and start looking for the new vaccine group code (750). Child and adult pneumococcal vaccinations are now evaluated and forecast under this new vaccine group. The PCV and PPSV vaccine groups are no longer supported.)
- Release notes which describe the above changes to the vaccine group logic in more detail.

Implementers should refer to the new ICE Implementation Guide (v2r15) when making adjustments to be compatible with this latest release, including the new Pneumococcal vaccine group as well as a few other vaccine and evaluation reason codes that have been added. (A "track changes" version of the guide is also available to make it easy to see what has changed since the last release.)
You can determine which release of ICE you are using by viewing the README.HISTORY file that is included with each distribution.
Please feel free to e-mail us at ice@hln.com if you have any questions.

~Submitted by Noam Arzt, HLN

JULY RECAP

Assessment Steering Committee

- On August 15th, the Assessment Steering Committee (ASC) hosted a webinar to introduce Practical Examples of IIS Population Based Coverage Assessments: An Addendum to the Analytic Guide. This webinar featured speakers from New York City, Minnesota and Washington state, who each use their IIS data in different ways to conduct coverage assessments.

- The ASC has moved to a quarterly meeting format. The next meeting will be held on September 5th at 2pm ET.

Standards and Interoperability Steering Committee

- The Standards and Interoperability Steering Committee (SISC) met on August 9th and approved sending AIRA's comments on the 2018 updates to the MACRA 2018 Rule. An overview was given on a recent pilot about delivery management service options for

vaccine code sets in preparation for the discussion on the technical workgroup call. The committee discussed state boundary query challenges for EHR's and reviewed July's SISC Technical Workgroup's discussion on patient query demographics and various LOINC codes.

- The SISC Technical Workgroup met on August 23rd and further discussed state boundary querying. In addition, the workgroup continued reviewing the HL7 ballot comments that were submitted. The topics included various LOINC codes including required LOINC codes. This will be a reoccurring agenda item until the comments are reconciled.

Education Steering Committee

- The Education Steering Committee (ESC) met on July 19th and received an update from the Public Health Informatics Institute's Informatics Academy. The next edition of *SnapShots* is scheduled to be published this fall and the Education Survey Report is currently in the design stage.

- The ESC hosted a webinar on schools and childcare within the IIS on Tuesday, August 29th. Oregon, Washington State, Indiana, and other IIS shared how they utilize school and childcare modules. The webinar also provided an overview of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). If you were unable to attend the webinar, you can view the recording [here](#).

MIROW Steering Committee

- The MIROW Steering Committee (SC) cancelled the August call due to the strategic planning in-person meeting held earlier in the month. For an update on the current status of that meeting see above article. The current topic, Consolidating Records, has completed the external review process and the document is currently in the design phase, with an anticipated September/October publication date.