



AIRA MONTHLY UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2015 IN REVIEW

PLEASE RENEW YOUR AIRA MEMBERSHIP

If you have not yet renewed your AIRA membership for the 2015 – 2016 membership year, now is the time to do so. AIRA membership benefits include:

- Members-only rates for AIRA-sponsored events
- Access to members only resources
- A subscription to SnapShots
- Participation on committees and workgroups, including the HL7 immunization user group
- Voting privileges

To become an AIRA member, [renew your membership online](#) or contact Ketti Turcato at kturcato@immregistries.org or (202) 759-0186. We hope you will renew your membership or join for the first time!

AIRA WELCOMES!

AIRA welcomes new staff member Amanda Branham, who joins us as a part-time administrative assistant. Amanda can be reached at abranham@immregistries.org. Welcome Amanda!

AIRA also welcomes three new babies – please join us in congratulating Erin Roche (MN), Laura Pabst (CDC) and Mary Woinarowicz (ND and AIRA Board President Elect) on the arrival of their newest family members!

AIRA INVITED TO BECOME LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE ON NVAC

AIRA was welcomed to their first meeting in the official capacity of Liaison Representative for the National Vaccine Advisory Committee (NVAC) on September 9-10, 2015. Liaison Representatives are appointed to NVAC to provide the views of industry or a special interest group. They serve specifically to represent the viewpoints or perspectives of groups engaged in vaccine research or providing key information on vaccine-

OCTOBER AT AIRA

- October 2nd 1 – 2 pm ET: **Joint Development Advisory Workgroup**
- October 2nd 3:30 – 4:30 pm ET: **Interoperability Testing Project Q&A Webinar**
- October 5th 2 – 3:30 pm ET: **AIRA Executive Committee Meeting**
- October 6th 2 – 3 pm ET: **Assessment Steering Committee Meeting**
- October 8th 2 – 3 pm ET: **HL7 Immunization User Group Meeting**
- October 14th 1 – 2 pm ET: **Standards & Interoperability Steering Committee Meeting**
- October 15th 4 – 5 pm ET: **MIROW Steering Committee Meeting**
- October 16th 8 am - 3 pm PT: **San Diego Regional Meeting**
- October 19th 2 – 3:30 pm ET: **AIRA Board Meeting**
- October 20th – 21st: **AIRA Joint Development Advisory Workgroup In-Person Meeting**
- October 21st 1 – 2 pm ET: **Education Steering Committee Meeting**
- October 26th 3 – 4 pm ET: **AIRA Discovery Session**

specific topics. This new role offers AIRA a seat at the table to share information and provide input on critical issues that relate to IIS.

Established in 1987, the National Vaccine Advisory Committee (NVAC) recommends ways to achieve optimal prevention of human infectious diseases through vaccine development, and provides direction to prevent adverse reactions to vaccines. This advice is presented to the Assistant Secretary for Health who serves as the Director of National Vaccine Program on matters related to program responsibilities. Among the many functions NVAC provides, it studies and recommends ways to encourage the availability of an adequate supply of safe and effective vaccination products in the States, and identifies high-priority areas for cooperation between government and non-government entities for implementing immunization efforts. IIS can play a crucial information role in partnering to provide oversight of the distribution and administration of vaccine throughout the private and public health system.

For more information on AIRA's new role on NVAC, contact Rebecca Coyle at coyler@immregistries.org.

AIM IIS SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT WORKGROUP MEETING

The Association of Immunization Managers (AIM) welcomed Alison Chi, AIRA Program Director, to an in-person workgroup meeting held on September 11th in Rockville, MD. The purpose of the IIS Subject Matter Expert Workgroup was to promote the use of IIS as a tool to increase immunization rates and to determine strategies, activities and guidance AIM can implement to assist program managers to utilize IIS. The meeting was engaging and productive, and AIM plans to share discussed solutions with their membership.

IIS ASSESSMENT SME PANEL LAUNCHES WORK IN AUGUST

A Panel of Subject Matter Experts from across the IIS community began meeting in August 2015 to develop a roadmap for IIS assessment. The group will meet for approximately 4-6 months, and is charged with the following responsibilities:

- evaluate and designate the initial approach and early governance structure for formal uniform assessment of all IIS, evaluating and selecting strategies to mitigate strategic and financial risks and barriers.
- draft an initial Communications and Messaging Plan that includes a strong statement of support, both programmatic and financial, for the development of a formal assessment process from CDC as a primary IIS funder. The plan should focus on both external messaging and the solicitation of input from the full IIS community to ensure broad opportunities for influencing the process development.
- evaluate the feasibility of the assessment process transitioning into a formal certification process, and set milestones and triggers for a decision regarding this transition.
- define and conduct the selection process for an ongoing Planning/Steering Committee, at which point the IIS SME workgroup will disband.

The group is made up of representatives from across the IIS community, including Aras Islam (Philadelphia), Dina Hoefer (NYS), Bob Swanson (Michigan), Mike Bin (Washington), Danielle Hall (Maine), and Loren Rodgers (CDC). [Loren Rodgers will be filling in for Laura Pabst (CDC) while she is on maternity leave.]

Although this group is focused on mapping the process for IIS Assessment, this work will closely dovetail with the information coming out of the Interoperability Testing Process that is guiding the technical approaches to IIS Assessment. For more information on this group's progress, contact Mary Beth Kurilo at mbkurilo@immregistries.org.

AFIX PHASE II GUIDELINES RELEASED

AIRA is proud to announce that the finalized copy of the "[AFIX-IIS Integration Operational and Technical Guidance for Implementing IIS-Based Coverage Assessment – Phase II](#)" document was released in September. The Phase II document is intended to be a resource for AFIX staff, IIS staff, and Immunization Program Managers that have already implemented, or are in the process of implementing, the Phase I reporting requirements. Phase I focused on the CDC reporting requirements, Phase II is focused on the optional assessment/report components utilized during AFIX provider feedback sessions, as well as alternative ways of looking at coverage data. Awardees may select the reporting components that are most useful for their AFIX provider feedback session and program policies. This guide provides a variety of report components and companion business rules. If you have questions regarding the guidance in this document, please contact Nichole Lambrecht at nlambrecht@immregistries.org.

MIROW BROCHURE UPDATED

The MIROW Steering Committee is happy to announce that the MIROW brochure has been updated and published on the AIRA website. The brochure gives a high-level explanation of the best practice recommendation development process and work products published by the MIROW committee. Members of the Steering Committee would like to express their gratitude to Amanda Harris (Nevada) and Katie Reed (HP) for volunteering to update this guide. If you have questions regarding the MIROW Steering Committee, please contact Nichole Lambrecht at nlambrecht@immregistries.org.

AIRA STAFF MEETING

AIRA held a two day in-person staff meeting September 23rd & 24th in Beacon, NY. As AIRA continues to grow, in-person staff meetings have become an important opportunity for staff to align with the organization's mission and vision, refine planning to achieve cooperative agreement goals and objectives, and strengthen the organizational infrastructure. And it's also great to see one another in person!



SEPTEMBER RECAP

Assessment Steering Committee

- The Assessment Steering Committee (ASC) met on September 1st, 2015. The Analytic Guide for Assessing Vaccine Coverage in an IIS is currently being formatted and should be finalized for distribution soon. The ASC discussed the Data Quality Assurance (DQA) project and the DQA Code Manager, which is related to AIRA work, but not currently under the AIRA umbrella. The DQA Code Manager is not installed locally and is a collaboration tool that enables efforts to ensure that codes are uniform. ASC also received a brief update on the Interoperability Testing Project and the analysis reports available to participants. Currently, over ½ of IIS are involved in this project.

Standards and Interoperability Steering Committee

- The Standards and Interoperability Steering Committee met on September 9th. SISC members received an update on the IIS Interoperability Project's work with acknowledgement (ACK) messages. Currently, the project has received data from 23 sites and upon a review of the results, only 3 out of 21 sites met the IG Release 1.5 standard for ACK messages. SISC discussed ways provide guidance on ACK messages. SISC also formed a subcommittee which will meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 1pm ET to discuss technical issues that may need to be addressed in future implementation guides.

Education Steering Committee

- The Education Steering Committee met on September 16th. The ESC discussed upcoming webinars at their last meeting, including a webinar for IIS to share challenges and successes in applying the [AFIX phase 1 guidance](#). Bridget Ahrens (VT) has agreed to present. The newest edition of [SnapShots](#) has been released. ESC's provider training workgroup is also developing a set of evaluation guidelines for the committee to review.

MIROW Steering Committee

- MIROW's most recent guidance on the [Management of Patient Active and Inactive Status in IIS](#) has been published. [Mini-guides](#) were recently mailed out to IIS and partners. MIROW is also looking to submit an abstract and presentation on its current topic, "Deducting Inventory via Electronic Data Exchange," at the upcoming 2016 AIRA National Meeting in Seattle, Washington.