



AIRA MONTHLY UPDATE

MAY 2015 IN REVIEW

AIRA REGIONAL MEETING

The American Immunization Registry Association (AIRA) is hosting a one-day regional meeting for Eastern region states/jurisdictions on Tuesday, June 16, 2015 from 8:30 AM to 3:15 PM in Boston, Massachusetts. Topics of the meeting include Data Quality, Conducting IIS-based AFIX, Maintaining and Updating HL7 Interfaces, Consumer Access, and Health Information Exchange. Attendees will have an opportunity to hear from national experts on the latest developments in these areas and engage in a collaborative process with colleagues.

NATIONAL ADULT AND INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION SUMMIT

The National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit (NAIS) was held May 12-14 in Atlanta. Rebecca Coyle and Alison Chi, AIRA Executive Director and Program Director, represented AIRA at this summit. The goal of this annual summit is to support work aimed at increasing adult immunization coverage rates. Increasing the use of IIS to improve adult immunization rates was discussed in many of the presentations, including a presentation given by Alison on the value of IIS for adult immunization. That and other presentations from this meeting can be found on the [summit website](#).

AIRA'S EDUCATION STEERING COMMITTEE HELPS OUT ON IIS WORKFORCE PROJECT

During their April and May meetings, the AIRA Education Steering Committee (ESC) heard from representatives from the Public Health Informatics Institute (PHII) about their developing IIS Workforce Training Project. This project seeks to create an IIS workforce development framework that will guide future training content and methods for new IIS staff roles. The members of the ESC responded to not one, but two surveys to help PHII prioritize which IIS roles were most in need of training, and which areas of knowledge, skills and abilities were most critical to target with initial training offerings. Thanks to all the ESC members for their input and feedback to strengthen the PHII project!

JUNE AT AIRA

- June 1st 2 – 3:30 pm ET: **Executive Committee Meeting**
- June 2nd 2 – 3 pm ET: **Assessment Steering Committee Meeting**
- June 2nd 4 – 5 pm ET: **IIS Integration into an Immunization Program Webinar**
- June 10th 1 – 2 pm ET: **Standards & Interoperability Steering Committee Meeting**
- June 11th 2 – 3 pm ET: **HL7 Immunization User Group**
- June 15th 2 – 3:30 pm ET: **AIRA Board Meeting**
- June 17th 1 – 2 pm ET: **Education Steering Committee Meeting**
- June 17th 3 – 4 pm ET: **WIR Joint Development User Group Meeting**
- June 18th 4 – 5 pm ET: **MIROW Steering Committee Meeting**
- June 22nd 4 – 5 pm ET: **AIRA Discovery Session**
- June 24th 2 – 3 pm ET: **Grantee Developed Joint Development User Group Meeting**

AIRA'S JOINT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT MOVES FORWARD

AIRA's two hosted Joint Development (JD) User Groups met in May. The WIR JD User Group discussed, among other topics, what technical and programmatic information they'd like to share with each other to better facilitate collaborative work. The Grantee Developed JD User Group discussed potential coordination topics for improving data quality and providing AFIX reports. The two groups will continue to meet monthly – more information on the user groups can be found on the [AIRA webpage](#).

In July, AIRA will be convening a community-wide Joint Development Advisory Workgroup with representatives from across the IIS program and vendor network. This group will be charged with selecting a joint development project and documenting project-level governance to move the project forward. Representatives are being sought from each of four User Groups (Envision, Grantee Developed, STC and WIR users), and information on the group's progress will be shared broadly in an effort to support a greater level of collaborative work across the community. Please contact Mary Beth Kurilo at mbkurilo@immregistries.org, or 202-552-0197 for more information.

CONTRIBUTE TO SNAPSHOTS

We want to hear from you, our members! Tell us about recent projects, innovative use of IIS data, or anything else you'd like to share with the community. Send your story to info@immregistries.org today!

AIM AWARD NOMINATIONS

AIM is in the process of collecting nominations for AIM's Natalie Smith and Bull's-Eye awards. Please consider nominating someone!

Natalie Smith Award

The *Natalie J. Smith, M.D. Award* is presented annually by the Association of Immunization Managers (AIM) to an Immunization Program Manager who has demonstrated the high ideals, innovation and commitment to excellence in immunization practices that characterized Dr. Smith's career. The award recognizes accomplishments and visionary leadership that have had a significant impact on achieving city, state, territory, and/or national vaccine-preventable disease goals. Nominations for this year's award will be accepted May 1 – June 5. Nomination forms and additional information can be found on the AIM website: <http://www.immunizationmanagers.org/?page=NatalieSmith>

AIM Bull's-Eye Award

The AIM Bull's-Eye Award for Innovation and Excellence in Immunization is presented to three state, territorial or urban area immunization programs (awardees) annually in recognition of an outstanding immunization initiative. The award recognizes immunization strategies that "hit their mark," achieving goals and increasing awareness by encouraging replication in other programs. The nomination period is May 1 – June 5, 2015. Nomination forms and additional information can be found on the AIM website: <http://www.immunizationmanagers.org/?page=BullsEyeAwar2013>

APRIL RECAP

Assessment Steering Committee

- The ASC met on May 5th, 2015. The Analytical Guide for Vaccination Coverage Assessment is nearly finalized. AIRA provided an overview of the assessment and certification discussion from the 2015 National Meeting. This presentation highlighted AIRA's recent paper, Summary of Environmental Scan of Assessment and Certification Models and AIRA's interoperability testing initiative. As of May 4th, 38 IIS programs or vendors have signed up for the project, and 3 EHRs have signed up to provide sample messages. ASC encouraged all IIS to sign up. Finally, the committee discussed future assessment work that might benefit the entire IIS community.

Standards and Interoperability Steering Committee

- The SISC met on May 13th, 2015. Rob Savage presented an updated proposal on VFC eligibility codes and funding sources that the CDC has been drafting. Craig Newman also presented on the Addendum to the Implementation Guide Version 1.5. The addendum will provide clarification and correct any errors to the IG. SISC members were encouraged to review the document and an accompanying document on key value sets and provide input. The committee also discussed the Meaningful Use Stage 3, Certified EHR Technology NPRM comments that were submitted by AIRA earlier this month.

Education Steering Committee

- The ESC met on May 20th, 2015. ESC members shared their experiences from the National Meeting and discussed ways to continue to improve offerings at the 2016 National Meeting in Seattle. The next Regional Meeting will be held in Boston on June 16th. Invitations were sent out earlier this month and the committee reviewed the draft agenda. Finally, PHII approached ESC last month for feedback on prioritizing IIS roles for training development. PHII had created descriptions for 9 core roles and based on feedback from ESC, is targeting 3 roles for training: data quality analyst, interface analyst, and IIS tester. This month, PHII asked the ESC for additional feedback on what knowledge, skills and abilities are most important to prioritize for training. All ESC members were encouraged to complete a survey that will help guide PHII's training efforts in July.

MIROW Steering Committee

- The MIROW Steering Committee met on May 21st, 2015. The MIROW PAIS Document and companion PAIS mini-guide is being formatted before publication. These documents should be released in the near future.
- A two-page micro-guide was distributed to the AIRA community for comments. This micro-guide gives guidance on lot number patterns developed by manufacturers and should be released very soon.
- Subject matter experts (SMEs) met for the first time in mid-May to begin work on MIROW's new topic: decrementing inventory from electronic data exchange. The SMEs will convene for an in-person meeting to continue work on this topic in late July.