



AIRA MONTHLY UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2014 IN REVIEW

RESERVE YOUR HOTEL NOW FOR THE 2015 IIS NATIONAL MEETING

AIRA's 2015 IIS National Meeting will be held in New Orleans April 21-23, 2015. The National Meeting builds upon the success of AIRA's 2012 and 2013 National Meetings by continuing to work toward our common goal of supporting and promoting the development, implementation and interoperability of IIS.

If you are planning on attending the National Meeting, we encourage you to reserve your hotel room as soon as possible. AIRA has reserved a room block for meeting attendees, but because the National Meeting immediately precedes the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival (April 24-May 5) it is important to reserve a room in the AIRA block as general hotel availability is limited that week. For reservations contact the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel at (888) 627-7033 and mention that you are with the "AIRA National Meeting" to receive the \$151 room block rate.

2015 NATIONAL MEETING
 IIS Pictures of Success:
 Standard Setting,
 Partnerships,
 Paving New Paths
**APRIL 21-23
 NEW ORLEANS**
AIRA AMERICAN
 IMMUNIZATION
 REGISTRY
 ASSOCIATION
 Immunization Information Systems for a New Era

SAVE THE DATE IMMREGISTRIES.ORG

AIRA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2014 -2015

The AIRA membership drive began in September. The membership year runs from October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015. Thanks to those of you who have already renewed! If you

DECEMBER AT AIRA

- Dec 1st 2 – 3:30 pm ET:
AIRA Executive Committee Meeting
- Dec 2nd 2 – 3:00 pm ET:
Assessment Steering Committee Meeting
- Dec 2nd 3:30 – 4:30 pm ET:
IIS-AFIX Webinar
- Dec 10th 1 – 2 pm ET:
AIRA Standards & Interoperability Steering Committee Meeting
- Dec 11th 2 – 3 pm ET:
HL7 Immunization User Group
- Dec 15th 2 – 3:30 pm ET:
AIRA Board Meeting
- Dec 17th 1 – 2 pm ET:
Education Steering Committee Meeting
- Dec 18th 4 – 5 pm ET:
MIROW Steering Committee Monthly Meeting

MEMBER UPDATE

We are starting a new monthly column where we will include YOUR updates. Please send updates about your IIS or organization to info@immregistries.org, with "Member Update" in the subject line.

haven't renewed your membership yet, it's not too late! Renew your membership (or join for the first time!) by visiting the membership renewal page on the AIRA website: <http://www.immregistries.org/membership/manage-membership>. Just login, click on Manage Membership, and then you will be able to renew your membership or join AIRA for the first time.

USING INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) TO IMPROVE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAMS

In November, Rebecca Coyle attended a stakeholder meeting in Istanbul, Turkey. Ninety-five people representing ministries of health, WHO, UNICEF, CDC, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Gavi the Vaccine Alliance, and many other stakeholders and partners met to:

1. Share experiences concerning the use of information and communication technology (ICT) in immunization programs
2. Brainstorm possibilities for future use and introduction of innovation
3. Consult on the roles that WHO should play to enable adoption of promising technologies, focusing on WHO's normative function around data standards, as well as on its advisory function concerning use of data, and managing innovation for scalable and sustainable outcomes.

Many of the discussions centered on tools and projects dedicated to reporting systems, logistics management information systems, electronic immunization registries, and underused technologies such as geographical information systems. While discussions and presentations on these topics showed a lot of progress and potential, challenges remain to scale up and sustain the use of appropriate technologies in the lowest income countries. Not uncommon to the discussions within the United States, participants agreed that updated guidance is needed around data standards, the use of data for decision making, and the use of information systems including new technologies. Four subgroups discussed the kind of guidance that would be useful in the areas of program performance monitoring, data for supply chain management, electronic immunization registries, and barriers towards integration and interoperability. Common threads across these groups were the need to invest not only in technology, but also in the people and the processes that make data useful. Data collection needs to be more directly linked to data use or data-driven decision-making especially at the district or health facility level.



While the focus of the discussion was on the global community, the struggles and challenges that other countries shared were very similar to the discussion we continue to have here in the U.S. In the coming months, WHO will take the lead on further developing guidance and creating a platform to facilitate the exchange of ideas and experiences in implementing ICT systems. As information emerges, AIRA will continue to share the ideas and experiences with our community.

AIRA WELCOMES NEW STAFF

AIRA welcomes contractor, Ketti Turcato, as the new Committee and Membership Coordinator. Ketti has former experience in the immunization world and is physically located in Portland, Oregon. Ketti, welcome to AIRA!

NOVEMBER RECAP

Assessment Steering Committee

- The ASC met on November 4th, 2014. The ASC decided to create a guide that would direct any individual or IIS through the decisions that need to be made to conduct coverage assessments using an IIS. A small working group of subject matter experts has been created to work on this project.

Standards and Interoperability Steering Committee

- The SISC met on November 12th, 2014. The SISC work plan was reviewed, discussed and collectively edited as a group.
- The SISC Charter will be updated by Rob and Mary, and will be shared with the group for review before the next meeting, with the hopes that it can be approved by the full steering committee.
- The IG is published and available on the CDC website. There are some small issues that have been found that require fine-tuning, and it is anticipated that more will be found as the guide gets used across the community.

Education Steering Committee

- The ESC met on November 19th, 2014. ESC members discussed comments received on the Training Resources for IIS Trainers document. Committee members were asked to submit any additional comments by Friday, November 21. The document will be finalized and posted to the AIRA website.
- ESC members discussed the IIS-AFIX webinar scheduled for December 2. Additionally, ESC members reviewed the following topics for future webinars that were suggested in the Education Survey: data quality, data format, data accuracy, technical capacity, system architecture and design, cross-jurisdictional data sharing, and privacy and confidentiality.

MIROW Steering Committee

- The MIROW Steering Committee met on November 20th, 2014. The steering committee discussed the patient active/inactive status topic guide, the topic for the next development cycle, MIROW activities at the AIRA 2015 National Meeting, evaluation of MIROW guides, and continued discussions on the development approach going forward.