



AIRA MONTHLY UPDATE

JUNE, 2014

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMUNITY PLATFORM

As reported in March, the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) is undertaking The Public Health Community Platform project in conjunction with CDC. The Public Health Community Platform will be a cloud-based system (cloud-based is not yet defined for this project) for public health data exchange within and between state, localities, tribes, and territories. Rebecca Coyle and Alison Chi are representing AIRA as a member of the steering committee. The steering committee has broad representation from the public health community and is focused on reviewing and providing guidance on the technical, sustainability, and governance assessments undertaken in year one of this project. Alison attended a meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, June 4th & 5th; the focus of the meeting was to review possible use cases for the platform, review technical assessment findings, discuss governance & sustainability recommendations, discuss the communications plan, and determine next steps.

PHARMACY QUALITY ALLIANCE (PQA) TASKFORCE

AIRA was invited to participate in the newly formed PQA Adult Immunization Task Force, which met in person on June 17th in Arlington, Virginia. The purpose of this task force, which will convene monthly over a 12-18 month period, is to: discuss data capture of pharmacist-administrated immunizations; identify methods for sharing that data with primary care providers; formulate recommendations that include methods of data capture that can be deployed now (focusing on better utilization of registries); and to explore the feasibility and appropriateness of creating a pharmacy-level measure for immunizations that are commonly administered by pharmacists.

AIRA EDUCATIONAL WEBINARS

SAVE THE DATE! The next webinar is scheduled for August 11th at 2 p.m. ET/ 11 a.m. PT. The topic for this webinar is **IIS Inventory Management**.

PAST WEBINAR RECORDINGS: The most recent webinar on data quality strategies related to interoperability was held on June

JULY AT AIRA

- July 1st 2 - 3:30 p.m. ET: **Assessment Steering Committee Meeting**
- July 10th 2 - 3 p.m. ET: **HL7 Immunization User Group**
- July 16th 12 - 1 p.m. ET: **AIRA Standards & Interoperability Steering Committee**
- July 16th 1 - 2 p.m. ET: **Education Steering Committee Meeting**
- July 17th 4 - 5 p.m. ET: **MIROW Steering Committee Monthly Meeting**
- July 21st 2 - 3:00 p.m. ET: **AIRA Board, Partners & Membership Bi-monthly Meeting**
- July 21st 3 - 4:00 p.m. ET: **AIRA Board Meeting**
- July 28th 4 - 5:00 p.m. ET: **Discovery Session: Data Quality Plans for IIS**

25, 2014. Mary Woinarowicz, AIRA Board Secretary and Sentinel Site Coordinator for the North Dakota Immunization Information System and Michelle Hood, Administrator for the Nebraska State Immunization Information System shared their experiences and expertise on IIS data quality & interoperability. The slides from both presentations and a recording of the webinar are posted on the AIRA website. You'll find slides and recordings for this and other past webinars here: <http://www.immregistries.org/events/past-events/webinars>

NVAC & ACIP UPDATES

Both the National Vaccine Advisory Committee (NVAC) and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice (ACIP) met in June. Below are a few highlights from both meetings.

NVAC

- NVAC is slated to introduce a new strategic plan
- NVAC approved recommendations to improve HPV and maternal vaccine efforts for more information about the full recommendation visit: <http://shotofprevention.com/2014/06/18/national-vaccine-advisory-committee-approves-recommendations-to-improve-hpv-and-maternal-vaccine-efforts/>

ACIP

- Influenza – a new recommendation for use of LAIV and IIV for children aged 2 through 8 years: When available, LAIV should be used for healthy children aged 2 through 8 years who have no contraindications or precautions. If LAIV is not immediately available, IIV should be used. Vaccination should not be delayed in order to procure LAIV.
- PCV-13 – potential recommendations for adult use were discussed during the two-day meeting, but no formal recommendations were made. Under consideration is a dose of PCV-13 for adults. An ad-hoc meeting may be convened prior to the October meeting to make formal recommendations.
- HPV – a 9-valent HPV vaccine currently being reviewed by FDA and is slated for approval in 2015 was discussed as was a possible 2-dose HPV schedule.

DISCOVERY SESSION: DATA QUALITY PLANS FOR IIS

In 2014 AIRA is offering technical assistance opportunities to the IIS community. These opportunities include monthly 'discovery sessions' which review topic areas relevant for all IIS Managers but are specifically targeting new(er) IIS Managers, staff, and those new to the IIS community. **Discovery Sessions are held on the fourth Monday of the month from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. ET.** Each session will be recorded and posted on our website for future viewing. See the AIRA website for call information: <http://www.immregistries.org/events/webinars>

The next session is being offered on July 28th and the topic is **Data Quality Plans for IIS**. This session will focus on the elements of an IIS data quality plan (This topic was originally scheduled for June, but the session was postponed and moved to July 28th)

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JUNE RECAP

Assessment Steering Committee

- The ASC met on June 3rd, 2014. The committee is tasked with overseeing a project to adapt the Data Quality Assurance tool (DQA) developed by Dandelion Software & Research, Inc. to serve as a 3rd party tool to assess IIS data quality. The committee

discussed the potential applicability of HIPAA to the proposed 'centralized' approach for the tool, i.e. one in which the tool is hosted by AIRA with data sent by IIS to the hosted tool. There is significant concern about the liability presented by this approach, and committee members recommended pursuing alternative options for deployment. The committee also discussed field options for inclusion in the planned data quality report.

- The committee will be piloting the Data Quality Assessment Tool this summer and is looking pilot sites. If you are interested in participating in the pilot, please email Alison Chi at achi@immregistries.org

Standards and Interoperability Steering Committee

- The SISC held its monthly meeting on June 11th, 2014 and an ad-hoc meeting to review a CMS & ONC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM): CMS-2014-Medicare and Medicaid Programs – Modifications, Revisions- Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. The NPRM was published May 23rd and comments are due July 21st. The proposed rulemaking is intended to allow Certified Electronic Health Record Technology (CEHRT) flexibility and extend the timeline for Stage 2, focusing on helping providers make better use of EHR technology. The proposed rule would allow providers to use 2011 edition CEHRT or a combination of 2011/2013 edition CEHRT, and providers wouldn't have to move to 2014 edition CEHRT until 2015. The proposed rule would also extend Stage 2 to 2016, beginning Stage 3 in 2017 and would also allow providers to demonstrate Stage 2 compliance in 2014 using Stage 1 objectives. Proposed comments on the rule were discussed during the ad-hoc meeting and AIRA comments will be drafted based on this discussion. Comments will be shared with AIRA membership and submitted to CMS & ONC by the July 21st deadline.
- The SISC also discussed topics related to the HL7 IG: the possibility of creating separate RXA requirements for each profile, MSH-15 and MSH-16 requirements, the value in RXA-0 when RXA is returned from IIS, and IG reorganization to add profiles based on NIST feedback.
- Eric Larson discussed a recently identified CDC WSDL issue. During testing, Rhode Island found a minor difference between the HL7 V2 standard and an underlying SOAP standard. The issue has to do with end-of-line terminators:
 - The HL7 standard dictates that all lines shall end with a carriage return (i.e.: ASCII 13, \r, or #xD).
 - The underlying XML standard used by SOAP dictates that all end-of-line terminators should be normalized to a line feed (i.e.: ASCII 10, \n, or #xA).

As such, it is possible that the carriage returns in an HL7 message could be (as proven in Rhode Island) converted to line feeds through SOAP transmission. Depending upon your HL7 parser, this could be problematic.

At this time CDC is suggesting a resolution on the IIS side. This will eliminate the need to roll-out an updated version of the WSDL and most importantly will not require changes by providers.

The suggested resolution is one of two approaches.

- 1) Prior to calling the HL7 parser in your IIS, perform a quick find/replace to ensure carriage returns are present
- 2) Adjust the HL7 parser to allow more than just carriage returns to mark the end-of-line terminator

It is believed that many IIS already do one or other of these today, so it's possible the suggested resolution is already in place.

Education Steering Committee

- The ESC met on June 18th, 2014. Committee members discussed the possibility of offering a post-National Immunization Conference Workshop and potential topics.
- Committee members discussed the proposed integration of the ESC and the Provider Training Workgroup, a subcommittee of the ESC. This integration is proposed to better leverage resources and increase participation of IIS trainers in the overall development of AIRA's education strategy. It was agreed that an email would be sent out after the meeting to inform those not in attendance of the proposal, and that a vote would be taken via email.
- Committee members continued planning for the next two AIRA educational webinars: IIS Data Quality and Interoperability which was offered on June 25th at 3 p.m. ET, and vaccine inventory management, scheduled for August 11th at 2 p.m. ET/11 a.m. PT. Stay tuned for more information on this upcoming webinar.

MIROW Steering Committee

- The MIROW Steering Committee did not meet in June, instead the MIROW subject matter experts for the current MIROW topic, Patient Active/Inactive Status met in Atlanta, Georgia June 17-20th.