



AIRA MONTHLY UPDATE

DECEMBER, 2013

NEW STUDY ON VACCINATION GAPS

A new study on vaccination gaps was published in December by Trust for America's Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. This report examines U.S. policies regarding infectious disease threats. One of the findings of the study on reasons attributed to vaccination gaps is the underfunding of immunization registries. You can find a link to the entire article on the AIRA website:

<http://www.immregistries.org/resources/funding-advocacy>

DISCOVERY SESSIONS FOR NEW IIS MANAGERS AND STAFF

In 2014 AIRA is offering a new set of technical assistance opportunities to the IIS community. These opportunities include monthly 'discovery sessions' which will review topic areas relevant for all IIS Managers but will specifically target new(er) IIS Managers, staff, and those new to the IIS community.

Discovery Sessions will be held on the fourth Monday of the month from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET. Undoubtedly there will be conflicts so each session will be recorded and posted on our website for future viewing. The first session is scheduled for January 27th. Please see the dates and topics below. Call information will be sent out separately.

January 27th: **What is AIRA?** This session will focus the organization, how the organization supports IIS and public health and what the organization can do for you. During this session we will also be soliciting topics for future Discovery Sessions.

February 28th Topic: **Meaningful Use Primer** Learn about Meaningful Use, the impact it has on IIS, and what you need to know about current and future stages.

March 24th Topic: **Program Integration** This session will focus on the various ways an IIS are used to support immunization programs and public health.

We strongly encourage you to attend these sessions and/or have the appropriate staff attend.

JANUARY AT AIRA

- January 8th 1 – 2 p.m. ET: **AIRA Standards & Interoperability Steering Committee**
- January 8th 2 - 3 p.m. ET: **AIRA Provider Training Workgroup Meeting**
- January 9th 4 - 5 p.m. ET: **MIROW Steering Committee Specially Scheduled Meeting**
- January 14th 2:30 -3:30 p.m. ET: **Assessment Steering Committee Meeting**
- January 15th 2 -3 p.m. ET: **Education Steering Committee Meeting**
- January 16th 4 - 5 p.m. ET: **MIROW Steering Committee Monthly Meeting**
- January 20th: **AIRA Office Closed in observance of Martin Luther King Day**

AIRA WEBINAR ON STANDARDS HARMONIZATION

AIRA's most recent educational offering was a webinar on Standards Harmonization that was held on December 17th. The webinar covered IIS standards development and the road and role ahead for AIRA and the IIS community in achieving continued success. The webinar was very well attended with 87 participants and feedback received was overwhelmingly positive. If you missed it, you can see a recording of the webinar on the AIRA website at <http://www.immregistries.org/events/2013/12/17/aira-education-steering-committee-webinar-standards-harmonization>

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AIRA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2013 - 2014

The AIRA membership drive began in September. The membership year runs from October 1, 2013 to September 30, 2014. Thanks to those of you who have already renewed! If you haven't renewed your membership yet, it's still 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/renewing-membership>. Just login, click on Renew Membership, and then you will be able to renew your membership or join AIRA for the first time.

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DECEMBER RECAP

Assessment Steering Committee

- The ASC met on December 3rd, 2013. The committee continued discussing the development of an assessment tool, focusing on confidentiality issues, data sharing agreements, tool design and format for data submissions.
- The University of Michigan submitted a draft report on findings from the survey they conducted on behalf of AIRA to learn about IIS-based assessment practices. Results from this survey will be presented to the AIRA community when final.

Standards and Interoperability Steering Committee

- The SISC met on December 11th, 2013. After many years of service, Emily Emerson has stepped down as Co-Chair of the SISC. AIRA is thankful for Emily's insightful leadership and wishes her well in her new role as Assistant Division Director for the Minnesota Department of Health. Mary Beth Kurilo (OR) will serve as interim Co-Chair while a search is conducted. If you are interested in being considered for this role please contact Alison Chi at achi@immregistries.org
- The SISC will be reviewing the HL7 EHR Child Health Functional Profile which is up for a reaffirmation ballot in January.
- The SISC finished review of the HL7 2.5.1 Implementation Guide update which will be released early in 2014.
- The SISC discussed a proposal from HL7 for a user group in the immunization space, which might serve as a good way to work with vendors implementing interfaces. The committee agreed to send this topic to the AIRA Board for further discussion and review.

Education Steering Committee

- The ESC met on December 18th, 2013. Committee members discussed the next issue of SnapShots, which will be released at the beginning of January.

- The ESC also planned for upcoming AIRA educational webinars. Look for webinar announcements in your email, in the monthly update, and on the AIRA website.
- The ESC began discussions on the education survey that will be conducted in 2014 to assess the education needs of AIRA members.

MIROW Steering Committee

- The MIROW Steering Committee met on December 19th, 2013. The committee discussed MIROW-related IISAR results, and the current evaluation of MIROW guides by the University of Michigan.
- The committee also discussed topics for the next MIROW chapter.
- A special Steering Committee call – to continue discussions regarding selection of a new topic for analysis – is scheduled for ***Thursday, January 9th, 2014, 4:00-5:00 PM ET.***