

Overview and Findings from ASTHO's IIS Interstate Data Sharing Meeting

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April 22, 2015



The Need for IIS Interstate Data Exchange

- States, territories, and some local jurisdictions maintain their own Immunization Information System (IIS)
- Many states recognize the need for IIS data to be shared between states as people often move
- A relatively few number of states exchange data

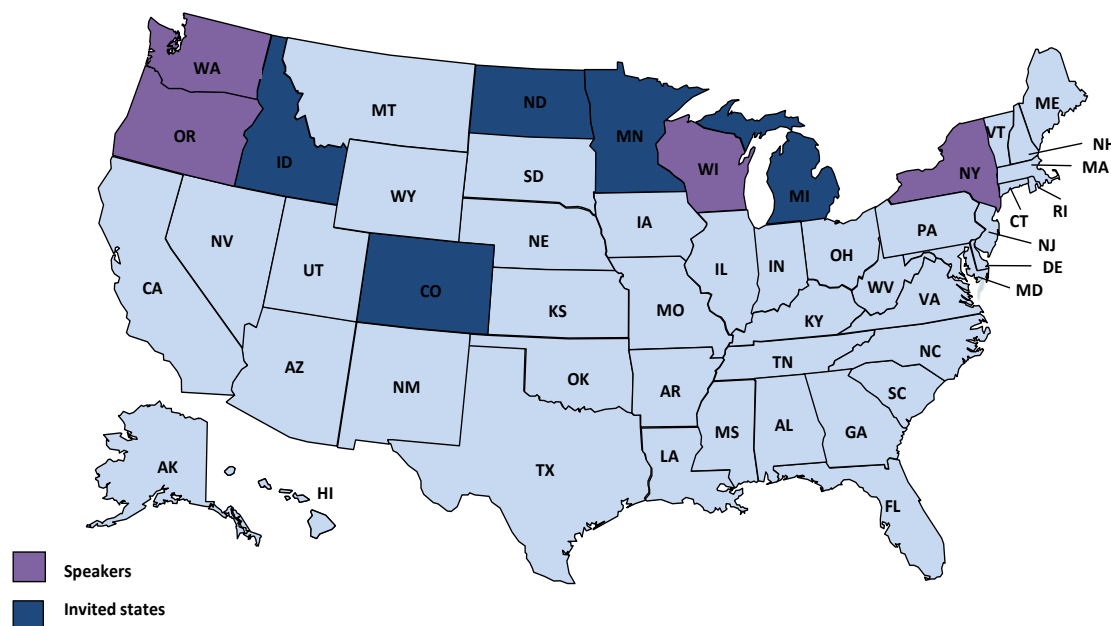
Benefits of IIS Interstate Data Exchange

- Improve accuracy of the immunization record for those who move between states
- Reduce missed vaccination opportunities or prevent over-vaccination among those who move between states
- Assist public health in monitoring trends, generating accurate reports, notifying vaccine recipients in the event of a vaccine recall, and targeting areas of need

IIS Interstate Data Exchange: A Priority for ASTHO

- The Infectious Disease Policy Committee (IDPC) identified IIS interstate data sharing as a top priority for 2013/2014 and again in 2014/2015
- Recognized there was a special need to develop solutions to address the temporary workforce issue in North Dakota
- Determined that a meeting among state stakeholders may spark new ideas for how to achieve IIS interstate data sharing and overcome barriers

Meeting Participants



Key State Stakeholder Participants:

- State health official/senior deputy
- Immunization program manager
- Registry manager
- Health IT coordinator
- Legal counsel

Other Stakeholder Participants:

- HHS/ONC
- HHS/NVPO
- CDC
- AIRA

Meeting Objectives

1. Engage key stakeholders from five states in a discussion about barriers and potential solutions regarding IIS data sharing
2. Identify and develop resources to be used by states and other stakeholders seeking to have IIS interstate data sharing
3. Propose next steps to further enhance IIS interstate data sharing efforts

Legal

■ Barriers

- Laws may strictly prohibit data sharing
- Laws may require a data sharing agreement
- If out-of-state providers want to directly query the IIS, they may be required to establish a user agreement with each provider/clinic

■ Solutions

- Draft a template interstate data sharing agreement or memorandum of understanding
- Change the law to include providers from other states, not just those licensed in the state
- Develop standard statute language, uniform law, or other integrated approach

Technical

■ Barriers

- States must make technological upgrades to their current system, which can take time and resources
- Lack of consistent business processes for an entire network of interstate data exchange
- State-to-state differences in IIS

■ Solutions

- Create mutually agreed upon standards and core measures, as well as, uniform business requirements and architecture
- Resources are needed for:
 - Additional staff at health departments on both the programmatic and technical side
 - Vendors to move interoperability forward
 - Health information exchanges (HIEs)

Programmatic

■ Barriers

- Devoting time, money, and resources to establishing the connection and agreeing to procedures
- Ability to prioritize this initiative

■ Solutions

- Gathering more information to determine how often people move between jurisdictions may help to elevate this initiative to a higher priority

NVAC Statement of Support

- The National Vaccine Advisory Committee (NVAC) provides recommendations to the Assistant Secretary for Health (ASH) at the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
- In February 2015, NVAC proposed a Statement of Support to include:
 - Promote ongoing efforts to develop tools, standards, and common guidance documents to address the technical and legal barriers to cross-jurisdictional IIS data exchange
 - Work closely to better quantify the need for IIS interstate data exchange at the regional and state levels
 - Engage HHS agencies and their partners to ensure efforts continue to be harmonized across the federal, regional, and state levels
 - Continue to brief the NVAC on the progress of efforts related to IIS interstate data exchange

Potential Next Steps

1. Develop a template memorandum of understanding
2. Provide technical assistance to states interested in interstate data sharing and expand current IIS interstate data exchange solutions (e.g., the HHS/ONC pilot)
3. Identify resources for shared services and governance
4. Quantify the need for IIS interstate data exchange and produce information for state health officials

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