

AIRA MONTHLY UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2016 IN REVIEW

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IT'S TIME TO RENEW AIRA MEMBERSHIP



AIRA's membership structure has recently changed! AIRA membership from 2016-2017 is now limited to IIS, IIS Implementers, non-profit organizations, or any other individual who is not associated with a for-profit organization. Basic membership is \$300 per year. AIRA members also

have an opportunity to upgrade to an elevated gold member status (\$1,500/year). AIRA membership entitles you to many benefits including:

AIRA Membership Benefits

- 3 voting members, 3 non-voting members
 - *Gold members receive 6 non-voting members total*
- 6 discounted registrations to the AIRA 2017 National Meeting and other AIRA-sponsored events
 - *Gold members receive 9 total discounted registrations*
- Use of an AIRA member logo
- Voting privileges
- Recognition on AIRA's website
- Receipt of SnapShots & the AIRA Monthly Update

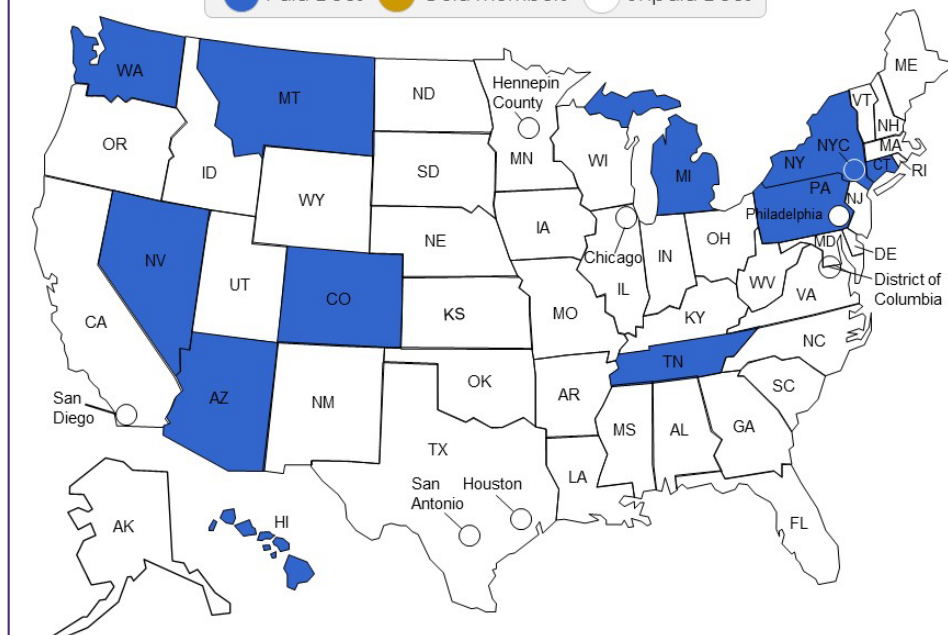
OCTOBER AT AIRA

- October 3rd, 2-3:30pm ET: **Executive Committee Meeting**
- October 4th, 2 – 3pm ET: **Assessment Steering Committee Meeting**
- October 7th, 1 – 2 pm ET: **Joint Development & Implementation Advisory Workgroup**
- October 12th, 1 – 2 pm ET: **Standards & Interoperability Steering Committee Meeting**
- October 17th, 2– 3:30 pm ET: **AIRA Board Meeting**
- October 19th, 1 – 2 pm ET: **Education Steering Committee Meeting**
- October 19th, 3 – 4 pm ET: **WIR Joint Development & Implementation User Group Meeting**
- October 20th, 2 – 3 pm ET: **HL7 Immunization User Group**
- October 20th, 4 – 5 pm ET: **MIROW Meeting**
- October 24th, 4 – 5 pm ET: **AIRA Discovery Session**
- October 26th, 1 – 2 pm ET: **Standards & Interoperability Steering Committee Technical Workgroup Meeting**

AIRA 2016-2017 Membership

(Updated 10/4/2016)

● Paid Dues
 ● Gold Members
 ● Unpaid Dues



We hope you will join now as an AIRA member! Please contact [Ketti Turcato](#) at (202) 759-0186 if you have questions or would like to be emailed a gold membership invoice. Membership payment can also be processed over the phone. AIRA's membership cycle runs October 1st through September 30th annually.

A sincere thank you to our 2016-2017 **gold** members: Envision Technology Partners, Inc., Hewlett Packard Enterprise, HLN Consulting, LLC and NORC at the University

of Chicago. Additional 2016-2017 AIRA members not represented on the map include the University of Michigan Child Health Evaluation and Research Unit and Victorian Cytology Service Registries. We hope you will join AIRA today!

NEW! AIRA 2016-2017 PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

AIRA's new Partnership Program offers an exceptional opportunity for anyone interested in further supporting AIRA's mission and for organizations ineligible to become AIRA members. AIRA Partnership benefits include:

	Premier Partner	Presidential Partner
Discounted registration rates at AIRA meetings	3	6
Access to AIRA Partner Logo	◆	◆
Recognition on AIRA's website by partnership level	◆	◆
Receipt of AIRA publications including SnapShots and AIRA's Monthly Update	◆	◆
Opportunity to submit partner updates in AIRA Monthly Update	◆	◆
Total Cost	\$1,500/year	\$2,500/year

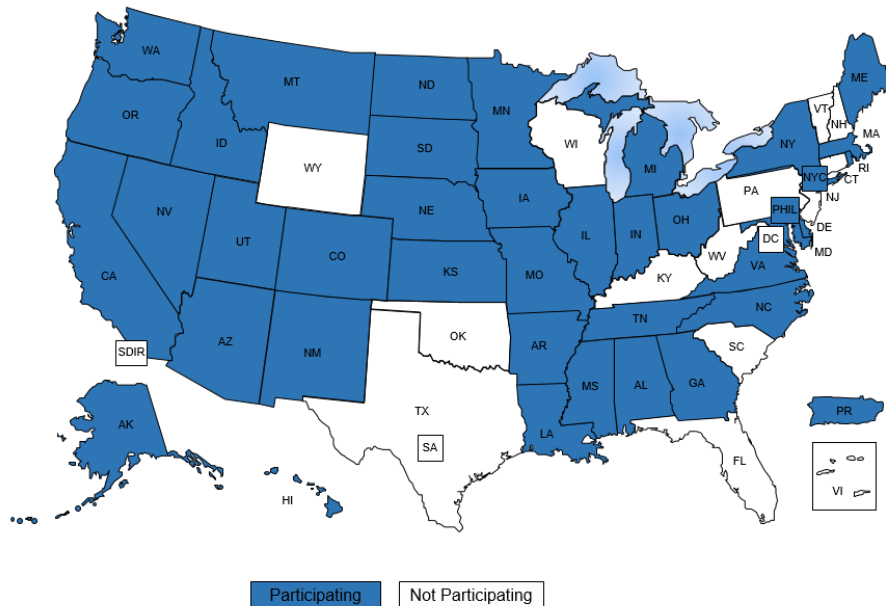
Partnership runs October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017. All partners are subject to the [AIRA Partnership Program Terms and Conditions](#). In addition to joining AIRA as gold members, Envision Technology Partners has become a Presidential Partner. Cerner Corporation has become a Premier Partner. Please visit AIRA's website to become an AIRA Partner [online](#) or contact Ketti Turcato at kturcato@immregistries.org or (202) 759-0186.

BASELINE RESULTS RELEASED – TRANSPORT ASSESSMENT

As part of its IIS Assessment project, AIRA has just published the *Transport Assessment Aggregate Baseline Report* for September, 2016. Thank you to all the IIS who participated in the transport baseline measurement. This is the first published baseline measure within IIS Assessment, a voluntary measurement and improvement process designed to assist IIS in more closely aligning with standards. Measures and tests are developed by the Measurement for Assessment and Certification Advisory Workgroup (MACAW), a representative group of IIS programs, vendors and partners.

57 IIS (which includes all 50 states, plus D.C., New York City, Philadelphia, Puerto Rico, San Diego, San Antonio, and the Virgin Islands¹) were asked to voluntarily participate in the IIS Transport Assessment. Of the 57, 40 IIS opted to participate for the baseline measure in September, 2016.

Quarter 3 2016 Transport Assessment Baseline Participation



Last Updated: Sept 14, 2016

Of 40 IIS participating in the transport baseline measure, 21 had a SOAP Web Services/CDC WSDL end point available for testing. Specific results for each test were as follows:

	Connectivity Test	Submit Single Message	Security Fault
Fully Meets	19	17	5
Deviates from Standard	1	2	7
Does Not Meet	1	2	9

Of the 21 IIS with an end point available for testing:

- Five IIS met all three tests, and thus met the measure overall
- 12 IIS met two out of three tests, with all 12 cases missing the security fault test. It is important to note that the 12 IIS that passed all measures except the Security Fault are

interoperable with the CDC WSDL standard as long as the correct authentication parameters are sent. For this reason, these sites are functionally compatible for production use when authentication succeeds.

- Two IIS met one out of three tests
- Two IIS met zero out of three tests

Individualized reports are available to participating IIS within [AART](#) (Aggregate Analysis and Reporting Tool).

The next re-measurement for Transport Assessment will take place in December 2016, and will likely include a fresh numerator and denominator as more IIS adopt SOAP/Web Services and the CDC WSDL, and opt to participate in Transport Assessment.

Please direct questions and/or comments on this aggregate report to the [AIRA Technical Assistance Team](#).

¹ Note that the six Pacific Islands were not included in the baseline due to limited transport technology.

NOW OFFERING AIRA TRAINING & EDUCATION PACKAGE



To better serve the needs of our members, AIRA is now offering an AIRA Training & Education Package for \$2,400 to cover all eligible expenses for the [AIRA 2017 National Meeting](#). The AIRA Training Package will cover eligible expenses including meeting registration fees, hotel lodging, meals and incidentals, airfare, checked baggage, airport parking, and ground transportation costs. All expenses will be covered in accordance with [AIRA's travel policies and procedures](#). As a reminder, the 2017 AIRA National Meeting will be held on April 11, 2017 – April 13, 2017 in Chicago, Illinois. If you are interested in purchasing an AIRA training package or have any questions about this option, please contact [Ketti Turcato](#).

FALL NATIONAL VACCINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

The fall meeting of the National Vaccine Advisory Committee (NVAC) in Washington D.C. on September 20th was compressed into one day, a departure from the usual two-day format. Kimberly M. Thompson, ScD assumed her new role as Chair of the committee. The agenda for the morning included an update from the National Vaccine Program Office on the Mid-Course Review of the 2010 National Vaccine Plan. The purpose of the mid-course review is to help guide the development of activities through the 2020 timeframe, serve as a framework for building consensus on priority areas, and serve as a roadmap at a time of transition to aid incoming leaders in decisions that could impact resource allocation. The review included broad federal and non-federal stakeholder input that resulted in findings and considerations for development of 2016-2020 activities. Of note are two overarching themes that emerged in the findings: *Collaboration was essential for many of the successes achieved in the past five years and will continue to play a major role in the next five years;* and, *capitalizing on advances in technology is key to past and future successes*. Five areas of opportunity were selected by focus groups including strengthen Health Information and Surveillance Systems and 16 indicators (metrics) were identified across the five opportunity areas. Key indicators for Strengthening Health Information and Surveillance Systems include the following:

- The number of Meaningful Use adopters that opt to fulfill the electronic reporting to IIS requirements to obtain Meaningful Use certification
- Percentage of adults aged >19 years who have one or more immunizations recorded in an IIS
- Increase the percentage of children aged <6 years whose immunization records are in a fully operational, population-based IIS

The afternoon included a presentation by Dr. Armen Donabedian, Technical Advisor and Vaccine Development Branch Chief, Influenza Division, BARDA on HHS's response to the 2014-2015 seasonal influenza vaccine mismatch. The final session, titled "Quality Measures: Narrowing the Gap in Measurement and Reporting for Adult Immunizations," included an overview by Dr. Angela Shen, NVPO and presentations by Dr. Mary Barton from NCQA on "NCQA and Immunizations: The Lifecycle of a Measure" and Dr. Hannah Fish from PQA on "PQA: Experience in measure development and the PQA Adult Task Force." The overview included a highlight of the work done by Indian Health Services (IHS) and the development of composite measures. Composite measures in this context can be likened to an immunization series, such as the 4:3:1:3:3:1:4, that is used for childhood. The purpose of a composite measure is to provide a broader perspective on the system of vaccination at a facility.

The day concluded with updates from liaison members. For a complete list of all topics, and eventually presentations, please see the NVAC website at www.hhs.gov/nvpo/nvac.

2016 NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION CONFERENCE (NIC)



AIRA was pleased to attend, exhibit, and present at the 47th National Immunization Conference on September 13-15, 2016 in Atlanta, Georgia. Mary Beth Kurilo, AIRA's Policy & Planning Director, presented on IIS Assessment & Certification Activities during a breakout session on Wednesday about Hot Topics in the IIS Community. AIRA also hosted a reception on Wednesday evening in the Crystal Ballroom that was attended by almost 150 of its members.

On Thursday, several of AIRA's staff (including Rebecca Coyle, Executive Director; Alison Chi, Program Director; Eric Larson, Senior Technical Project Manager; and Carmela Gupta, Senior Program Manager) participated in a

breakout session highlighting IIS' Greatest Hits. This session provided an overview of IIS, including the many functions, versatility, and data uses throughout the immunization community. The session featured a history of IIS, as well as a series of IGNITE presentations highlighting how IIS impact all aspects of the immunization program and its partners.

AIRA also presented a workshop on IIS Assessment and Testing in collaboration with the National Institutes of Standards in Technology (NIST) and the State of Oregon's ALERT IIS, and presented on a panel with other public health programs on Meaningful Use Stage 3 readiness.



AIRA HOSTS 2016 POST-NIC WORKSHOP

The AIRA Post-NIC workshop followed the National Immunization Conference on September 16th. Over 90 participants attended the workshop that was designed to be interactive and engaging. The programmatic track included presentations on developing and improving policies for the IIS/Immunization Program and communication strategies for reporting to leadership. The technical track covered planning and developing coverage assessments using an IIS and strategies for preparing for Meaningful Use stage 3. Participants also heard plenary talks including an AIRA State-of-the-State as well as the plans for the 2018 Functional Standards. They then had the chance to participate in round-table discussions during lunch to provide feedback on the proposed 2018 standards. Preliminary reviews of the Post-NIC evaluations indicate attendees were very pleased with the workshop content and structure.

NEW AIRA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TRAINING VIDEOS

AIRA has developed a new [page](#) on the AIRA website to house technical assistance training videos. These videos cover several technical aspects of IIS and are designed to be short and concise. The plan is to develop videos for different user levels and different IIS topics. Currently there are three videos available for viewing:

- 1) [AART Introduction](#)
- 2) [Transport 101](#)
- 3) [NIST Immunization Test Suite Demonstration](#)

Be sure to bookmark the page as new videos will be posted once available! Also, please send input on additional topics you would like to see in the future to info@immregistries.org.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FAQ: MEANINGFUL USE STAGE 3

AIRA is introducing a new section to the Monthly Update to share answers to frequently asked questions. This month's question is related to Meaningful Use (MU) Stage 3.

Q: What must an IIS do before it can declare readiness for Meaningful Use (MU) Stage 3?

A: Before an IIS can declare readiness for MU stage 3, several key aspects of the Release 1.5 IG must be implemented or expected to be implemented by January 1, 2018.

- The IIS must be able to accept the Z44 Request for Evaluated History and Forecast query message and respond with an appropriate response message as documented in the IG (typically a Z42 Return Evaluated History and Forecast message). If the IIS is only able to return a Z32 Return Complete Immunization History, then the IIS cannot claim readiness, even if the Z32 contains observations related to both evaluated history and forecast.
- The IIS must be able to accept NDC codes for new administration messages. Support for NDC is only required for incoming VXU messages, the IIS is not required to return the original NDC in query results. It is the spirit of the regulation that for new administrations all IIS will be able to accept NDC codes alone (and drive all business requirements based on the NDC code alone) and all IIS are highly encouraged to evolve their systems to meet this requirement. When processing a message, the IIS may immediately convert the received NDC to CVX or its own internal representation. This means that IIS may be able to upgrade to support NDC by simply mapping the new

codes into the current IIS representation and thus preserve current workflow processes and business logic associated with receiving CVX codes. However, in the short term, while IIS must be able to accept an NDC code without logging an error, local guides may further constrain the usage of RXA-5 to also require the cognate CVX code also be sent. RXA-5 uses a data type of CE which allows for sending of both an ID (using one coding system) and an alternate ID (using a different coding system) as long as both codes are close synonyms. In this case, the NDC code should be sent in one triplet while the CVX code should be sent in the other. No preference for order should be given by the IIS. Note that 2015 EHR certification does NOT test the ability of a certified EHR to send both the NDC and CVX code in RXA-5 for a given administration.

CDSI CORNER: CLARIFICATION ON LAIV & ACIP UPDATES

As many know ACIP is recommending that LAIV not be used during the 2016-2017 season due to efficacy concerns. However, LAIV is still an FDA licensed product and IIS may see LAIV administrations. This raises the question as to whether or not a dose of LAIV would be considered invalid and need to be repeated. This has been clarified and LAIV can be counted as a valid dose. More information on this can be found [here](#).

October 19 is the start of the fall ACIP meeting. The draft agenda includes – among other topics – considerations for a 2-dose HPV schedule, an alternative MenB schedule based on new FDA licensure, and updated guidance on timing of Tdap during pregnancy. A current agenda can be found [here](#). November's monthly update will share important decisions made during the ACIP meeting.

Finally, the CDSi project is excited to announce it will be forming a group dedicated to CDSi topics. This group will meet as needed to discuss new or changed ACIP recommendations, future plans and directions for the CDSi project, and to elicit feedback on areas CDSi can improve. If you are interested in joining, please contact Stuart Myerburg (jyz0@cdc.gov) or Eric Larson (vev5@cdc.gov) to be added. Our first meeting will be in early November.

NEWLY PUBLISHED RESEARCH

The Online Journal of Public Health Informatics recently published two articles pertinent to the IIS community. [The Impact of EHR Interoperability on IIS Data Quality](#) uses data from North Dakota's IIS to show how EHR interoperability improves data quality. A second article discusses how linking pharmacies with IIS improves adult immunization rates and health outcomes by using timely data. This article from STC is entitled, [Observations Illustrating the Use of Health Informatics to Link Public Health Immunization Registries and Pharmacies to Increase Adult Immunization Rates and Improve Population Health Outcomes](#). For more information, please visit the [Online Journal of Public Health Informatics website](#).

AIRA 2015 – 2016 SPONSOR HIGHLIGHT



Envision has been engaged in a number of very exciting projects over the past year that will benefit our 15 awardee clients. One of the most rewarding has been a complete rewrite of our forecaster to utilize the CDSi logic specifications. Working with the CDC, we achieved 100% compatibility with the CDSi test suite, significant performance gains, and an audit capability that SMEs in the field can use to understand the forecaster recommendations. We began delivering this to all of our clients in July and many are now in production. In addition to this major milestone, we're working on:

- HL7 data exchange between jurisdictions in collaboration with the ONC
- Hosting and disaster recovery services leveraging the Microsoft Azure Government Cloud service offering
- AFIX Phase I and II functionality
- HL7 2.5.1 Release 1.5 functionality including vendor onboarding tools
- Decrementing inventory via HL7
- Provider Management functionality enabling jurisdictions to monitor vaccine temperatures, and manage VFC program enrollment
- Flu Pre-booking module

Envision's core competency is the development and integration of cost-effective, high-quality, web-based software solutions for public health. For more information on our products and services, please contact [Steve Murchie](#).

SEPTEMBER RECAP

Assessment Steering Committee

- The Assessment Steering Committee (ASC) met on September 6th and received a progress update on the addendum to the [Analytic Guide for Assessing Vaccination Coverage Using an IIS](#), and began discussing potential ideas for the next Coverage Assessment project. The formal design process is wrapping up for the new "Data Validation Guide – For the IIS Onboarding Process." This guide focuses on the data validation steps within the onboarding process and provides recommendations as well as serves as a resource for the IIS community.

Standards and Interoperability Steering Committee

- The Standards and Interoperability Steering Committee (SISC) and the SISC Technical Workgroup met on September 29th to finish the discussion on ideas for improving ACK messages. Kevin Snow presented different scenarios and sections that could be clarified and enhanced.

Education Steering Committee

- The Education Steering Committee (ESC) met on September 21st and reviewed the latest version of the AIRA membership survey. The committee provided valuable input

and feedback which AIRA plans to take back and incorporate into the latest draft. On the October call, the ESC will review an updated version of the survey.

MIROW Steering Committee

- MIROW met on September 29th and discussed the evaluation results from the latest in-person meeting, which showed that the participants are very satisfied with the approach and tools that are used at MIROW meetings and would volunteer to serve on a MIROW subject matter expert (SME) panel again. MIROW also discussed the timeline for completing the Consolidated Records topic and potential overlap with a new topic. The workgroup is brainstorming on alternative options for the next development cycle and will have more discussions about this next month. The next MIROW meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2016 (4-5 pm EST).