AIRA AMERICAN IMMUNIZATION REGISTRY ASSOCIATION
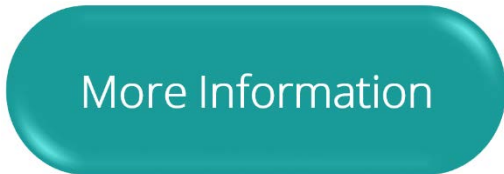Immunization Information Systems for a New Era

AIRA MONTHLY UPDATE

FEBRUARY 2017 IN REVIEW

MONTHLY UPDATE AT A GLANCE	PAGE

33 DAYS LEFT UNTIL AIRA 2017 NATIONAL MEETING

AIRA is gearing up for the AIRA 2017 National Meeting in Chicago, Illinois on April 11th – 13th, 2017. Early bird registration ends this Sunday, March 12th. This meeting is an incredible opportunity to connect with peers and partners throughout the IIS community. The meeting also continues the important work of supporting and promoting the development, implementation and interoperability of IIS. Through both formal presentations and informal discussions, attendees will have an opportunity to strengthen long-term partnerships, develop new relationships, gain professional education and training, and learn from one another. We hope you will join us!

More Information

MARCH AT AIRA

- March 3rd, 1 – 2 pm ET: **Joint Development & Implementation Advisory Workgroup**

- March 6th, 2:30 – 3:30pm ET: **Executive Committee Meeting**

- March 7th, 2 – 3pm ET: **Assessment Steering Committee Meeting**

- March 8th, 1 – 2 pm ET: **Standards & Interoperability Steering Committee Meeting**

- March 9th, 2 – 3 pm ET: **HL7 Immunization User Group**

- March 13th, 4-5pm ET: **Discovery Session**

- March 14th, 2 – 3 pm ET: **CDC Functional Standards Webinar**

- March 15th, 1 – 2 pm ET: **Education Steering Committee Meeting**

- March 15th, 3 – 4 pm ET: **Awardee Joint Development & Implementation User Group Meeting**

- March 16th, 4 – 5 pm ET: **MIROW Meeting**

- March 20th, 2– 3:30 pm ET: **AIRA Board Meeting**

- March 22nd, 1 – 2 pm ET: **SISC Technical Workgroup Meeting**

AIRA REGIONAL MEETING IN OKLAHOMA A SUCCESS

AIRA held a Regional Workshop for the Central Region on March 1st in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Twenty-eight attendees participated including AIRA staff. The purpose of this one-day meeting was to provide IIS peer-to-peer support, mentoring and specialized assistance. Attendees conversed about the implications and preparedness strategies for Meaningful Use Stage 3, and learned about AIRA's Analytic Guide to Assessing Vaccination Coverage and its Addendum. In addition, attendees heard an update on the status of interstate data exchange and participated in a discussion on communication strategies for presenting complex content to leadership. Participants learned from their colleagues from the region and discussed shared issues. Overall the workshop was engaging and productive and a successful completion to AIRA's 1st set of regional meetings, which have now been offered for all US states and territories.

AIRA PARTICIPATES IN HIMSS INTEROPERABILITY SHOWCASE

The Health Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) Annual Meeting was held in Orlando, Florida on February 23-26, 2017, and AIRA was honored to be asked to participate in the Interoperability Showcase at the meeting, alongside EPIC, QVERA, NexTrials, Optum, and the University of Washington. AIRA collaborated with Envision Partners and EPIC to demonstrate and discuss vaccine submission and query between IIS and EHRs in real-time.

The HIMSS meeting itself is a gathering of over 45,000 Health IT organizations and professionals who come together to share the latest product and program information in the field of Health IT. Public Health had a significant presence at the meeting, with representatives from several IIS programs and vendors, as well as other public health associations such as the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), and the Association of Public Health Laboratories

(APHL). AIRA's own Eric Larson also presented at the meeting, serving as a panelist in a presentation on the Immunization Integration Project, a recognition program to support EHRs in adopting best practice workflows for immunization management.

Amidst the clamor and chaos of 45,000 participants representing thousands of organizations, AIRA staff and other IIS community members were able to have a number of meaningful conversations with fellow participants. If there was one theme that stood out in these conversations, it was that IIS have a critically important role to play across the interoperability landscape. Those invested in health information exchange recognize the early successes IIS have achieved through standards adoption and collaboration, and many want to interoperate more fully with our systems. This signals exciting times for IIS, and increased interoperability will offer opportunities to more fully meet our providers' and stakeholders' needs with both clinical and population-based data to drive optimal immunization practice.

AIM LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, NEW CHAIR-ELECT

Rebecca Coyle and Amanda Dayton attended the Association of Immunization Managers (AIM) Leadership in Action Conference in Charleston, South Carolina, February 8-9, 2017. The theme of this event was "Training, Conversation & Collaboration" and it provided an opportunity for AIRA to network with immunization program managers, program staff and partners in leadership roles. AIRA exhibited at this conference, shared important information about AIRA activities, and learned more about the successes and challenges faced by program managers.

Also, AIRA board member Dave McCormick has been recently elected as the AIM Chair-elect. Dave is the director of the Indiana Immunization Division at the Indiana State Department of Health and also currently serves as a voting director on the AIRA board. Congratulations Dave!

AIRA PARTICIPATES IN JPHIT IN-PERSON MEETING

Rebecca Coyle attended the February 1–2, 2017 in-person meeting of the Joint Public Health Informatics Taskforce (JPHIT), a coalition of public health associations. One of the primary purposes of this meeting was to identify the key workflows for JPHIT for the next six months. The Network for Public Health Law proposed a project on interjurisdictional sharing of public health data. Immunization data would be included, but the focus is slightly larger than just immunizations and more on the broader public health data sharing needs. The long-term goal is to develop a white paper that could be presented to the Uniform Law Commission with the hope that they will adopt the issue and develop a uniform law. Ultimately, the JPHIT Board agreed this project should move forward. The first step is to develop a position paper that clearly outlines what is currently being done, where there are gaps, and next steps before presenting the position paper to the JPHIT board in June. Ideally, the JPHIT board will approve a phase two in June and a White Paper will be developed.

IIS ASSESSMENT AGGREGATE BASELINE RESULTS RELEASED, SUBMISSION-ACKNOWLEDGMENT

As part of its IIS Assessment project, AIRA published the Submission-Acknowledgment Assessment Aggregate Baseline Report in February 2017. Thank you to all the IIS who participated in the baseline measurement. This is 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 Islands) were encouraged to voluntarily participate in the IIS Assessment project.   Of the 57, 28 IIS opted to participate in the January 2017 submission and acknowledgement assessment for the baseline measure.

AIRA ATTENDS NVAC MEETING IN WASHINGTON DC

The National Vaccine Advisory Committee (NVAC), a committee coordinated by the National Vaccine Program Office (NVPO) within Health and Human Services (HHS), held its triannual meeting in Washington DC on February 7th and 8th, 2017. The mission of NVAC is to recommend ways to achieve optimal prevention of human infectious diseases through

vaccine development, and to provide direction to prevent adverse reactions to vaccines. AIRA was invited to become a liaison member on the Committee in 2016, and serves alongside AIM, ASTHO, and several other public health associations to provide information and updates to the NVAC membership.

February's meeting offered several excellent presentations with direct relevance to the IIS community. Among them, Dr. Alan Hinman provided a history of NVAC's last 30 years, while Dr. Stanley Plotkin shared a far-reaching presentation on vaccinology. The 21st Century Cures Act was discussed, and Dr. Nancy Messonnier from CDC's NCIRD provided an update about the National Vaccine Stockpile as well as CDC's work to eliminate Unit of Use/Unit of Sale differences across lot numbers.

Perhaps the most significant news shared at the meeting was that Dr. Bruce Gellin, the long-time Director of NVPO, announced his departure from the office, effective March 1st. Dr. Gellin has since shared that he will become the President of Global Immunization for the Sabin Vaccine Institute, while Dr. Jewel Mullen, the acting Assistant Secretary for Health, will step in as acting Director of NVPO as the Department begins a national search for a permanent replacement.

ACIP MEETING & PENDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Many items were discussed as usual at Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), but this meeting had only one formal vote to modify an existing recommendation. The vote addressed the revaccination strategy for infants born to HbsAg+ mothers who do not respond to the initial Hepatitis B vaccination series. The vote was passed and the details of the recommendation will be published in a forthcoming MMWR.

Pending ACIP Recommendations

ACIP has three pending publications which are due to be published in the near future.
- In October, ACIP voted to clarify language regarding the birth dose of HepB should occur within the first day of life regardless of setting.
- ACIP is also working on a Meningococcal B guidance statement regarding minimum intervals and revaccination if minimum intervals are violated.
- An updated version of the General Recommendations is being published. This was last published in January 2011.

FEBRUARY RECAP

Assessment Steering Committee

- The Assessment Steering Committee (ASC) met on February 6th and received a progress report on phase II of the Data Quality Project. The committee reviewed and provided

feedback on a compilation of various indicators that could be used to monitor or evaluate ongoing provider data submission to an IIS. These indicators will be featured in the draft document "*Ongoing Monitoring and Evaluation of Data Submissions to IIS*" which was sent to the committee to review in February.

- The ASC also hosted a webinar introducing the new Data Validation Guide on February 22nd. If you were unable to attend this session, you can view the recording on the [AIRA website](#).

Standards and Interoperability Steering Committee

- The Standards and Interoperability Steering Committee (SISC) met on February 8th and approved the SISC Work Plan for 2017. The work plan helps to guide the work of the SISC each year. Stuart Myerburg (CDC) and Regina Cox (Deloitte Consulting) followed up from the January meeting and collected feedback from the committee on the CDC Code Sets website.
- The SISC Technical Workgroup met on February 22nd and discussed various topics for the 2.8.2 version of the Implementation Guide.

Education Steering Committee

- The Education Steering Committee (ESC) met on February 15th. Teresa Dussault from PHII shared an update on the PHII Workforce Development Project. PHII has been developing introductory level lessons to help orient new employees to the IIS, and they invited the ESC to participate in the virtual pilot to gather additional suggestions for improvement. The next edition of SnapShots will be released in March and will highlight some of the AIRA 2017 National Meeting sessions.
- The ESC will be hosting a webinar on **March 14th at 2pm ET** on the CDC Functional Standards. This session will feature Jan Hicks-Thomson and Janet Fath from CDC/NCIRD/IISSB and will be an introduction to material they will cover during their breakout session at AIRA 2017 National Meeting. Visit the [AIRA website](#) to register for the webinar.

MIROW Steering Committee

- The MIROW steering committee met on February 16th to continue to plan for an in-person strategic planning meeting for the summer. MIROW also continued the planning process for a workshop at the AIRA 2017 National Meeting to solicit input from the community on key aspects for this strategic planning. More information will be forth coming. The current topic, consolidating records, is still underway and will be in progress until spring-summer 2017.