



AIRA MONTHLY UPDATE

OCTOBER 2017 IN REVIEW

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AIRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION RESULTS

AIRA is excited to announce the newly elected Officers and Directors.

- President Elect: Amanda (Mandy) Harris (Nevada)
- Secretary: Jenne McKibben (Oregon)
- Voting Directors: David McCormick (Indiana), Aaron Bieringer (Minnesota), and Bridget Ahrens from (Vermont)
- Non-Voting Director: Kevin Dombkowski (University of Michigan)

NOVEMBER AT AIRA

- November 1st, 2 – 3 pm ET: **MIROW Ad-hoc Meeting**
- November 3rd, 1 – 2 pm ET: **Joint Development Advisory Workgroup Meeting**
- November 8th, 1 – 2 pm ET: **Standards & Interoperability Steering Committee (SISC) Meeting**
- November 9th, 2 – 3 pm ET: **HL7 Immunization User Group**
- November 15th, 1 – 2 pm ET: **Education Steering Committee Meeting**
- November 15th, 3 – 4 pm ET: **Awardee Developed Joint Development & Implementation User Group Meeting**
- November 16th, 4 – 5 pm ET: **MIROW Steering Committee Meeting**
- November 20th, 2 – 3 pm ET: **AIRA Board, Partners & Membership Meeting**
- November 20th, 3 – 4 pm ET: **AIRA Board Meeting**
- November 22nd, 1 – 2 pm ET: **SISC Technical Workgroup Meeting**
- November 27th, 4 – 5 pm ET: **AIRA Discovery Session**
- November 28th, 3 – 4 pm ET: **AIRA Town Hall on Validation**

This year there was another record high number of members voting in the election – thank you to everyone who took the time to cast your vote!

AIRA would like to recognize and thank Mary Woinarowicz (ND) for her years of service in the Presidential role and Brittany Erserly (KS) as a Director. Their contributions to the AIRA board have been invaluable.

Thank you Mary and Brittany!



AIRA 2018 NATIONAL MEETING UPDATE



The call for abstracts, registration, and award nominations for the AIRA 2018 National Meeting is open!

AIRA's 2018 National Meeting will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah on August 14-16, 2018. Submit an abstract! Reserve that hotel room. Submit an award nomination, and together, we will continue to work toward our common goal of supporting and promoting the development, implementation and interoperability of IIS.

AIRA would also like to welcome and thank the first sponsor for the 2018 National Meeting, HLN Consulting L.L.C, sponsoring at the Gold level. We invite others to consider becoming a sponsor today!

Check out the [National Meeting website](#) to:

- ✓ Submit an abstract
- ✓ Register for the event
- ✓ Reserve your hotel room
- ✓ Submit an award nomination
- ✓ Learn about sponsorship opportunities

SUBMIT A NOMINATION FOR THE AIRA AWARDS TODAY!

Many people do incredible work in the IIS community and AIRA would like to recognize their efforts and contributions. Each year, AIRA sponsors the [Centers of Excellence Award](#) and the [Volunteer Service Award](#), and the winners are announced during the AIRA National Meeting. As an added bonus, the top finalists for the Centers of Excellence Award receive an all-

expenses paid trip to the AIRA National Meeting in Salt Lake City. [Submit your nominations](#) today!

BOARD APPROVES THE MACAW RECOMMENDATION TO MOVE TO IIS VALIDATION

After discussions with the IIS Community, including AIM, Program Managers, and partners, the AIRA Board has approved the MACAW recommendation to introduce a validation process in place of voluntary certification.

More details will be forthcoming, but included below is a short summary of the approach:

- Validation will be automatically achieved when a participating IIS is assessed and meets the selected measures and tests in a specific phase (e.g., transport, submission, query, etc.)
- Validated IIS will be provided with a formal statement that can be used on marketing materials, and sites will be recognized at AIRA events
- Measurement reports will acknowledge interim steps including “major differences” and “minor differences” with standards – major and minor differences will be determined by MACAW and approved by the Board

- Tuesday, November 28 at 3 pm ET
- Register [HERE](#) to join the webinar

Register Today!

More details about the validation implementation will be discussed during a Town Hall webinar on November 28th. In the meantime, please direct any questions to [Mary Beth Kurilo](#).

~Submitted by Mary Beth Kurilo, AIRA

AIRA WELCOMES NEW PROJECT MANAGER



Kristi Siahaya has recently joined AIRA as a Project Manager. Kristi has worked within the immunization community for over 10 years in a variety of capacities and in multiple states. She has a broad range of experiences and roles ranging from Health Educator working to promote the use of the IIS in Washington State, gathering Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) measures for Premera Blue Cross as a HEDIS Administrator, and most recently working as the Executive Director of Public Sector Operations and Delivery on the vendor side with Scientific Technologies Corporation. We are excited to welcome Kristi to the AIRA team!

NEW! MIROW BEST PRACTICE GUIDE RELEASED

The Modeling of Immunization Registry Operations Workgroup (MIROW) Steering Committee is proud to announce that the [Consolidating Demographic Records and Vaccination Event](#)

Records documents (full and mini-guide) are now published on the AIRA website. This topic offers best practice recommendations to support IIS staff to implement and sustain the consolidating records functionality. Consolidating information about the patient or vaccination event from different sources, as well as information from multiple reports by the same source, leads to a more accurate and complete reflection of reality in the IIS. A webinar was conducted to present this material to the community. Slides and the recording for this webinar can be found [here](#). Mini-guides will be printed and mailed to each jurisdiction in the coming month.



AIRA would like to thank the jurisdictions and individuals that took the time to provide input into the development process. In addition, thank you to the MIROW Steering Committee for providing direction and support to this project.

If you have any questions about this webinar or documents, please contact [Nichole Lambrecht](#).

-Submitted by Nichole Lambrecht, AIRA

TOO BUSY TO CHECK OUT SMARTYSTREETS? JOIN THE USER GROUP!

Do you have “Learn more about SmartyStreets” on your To Do list?

No matter what part of the process you’re in – from thinking about SmartyStreets, to planning its use, to getting your [Partner Agreement](#) reviewed and signed, **you’re invited** to join in on our **SmartyStreets User Group** calls!

Hear how other jurisdictions are:

- Planning steps to implement the service
- Assessing their data quality
- Using cleansed and validated data to support their program needs
- Geocoding and creating maps

Plus, you can ask questions specific to your system!

The SmartyStreets User Group meets once a month, and is co-facilitated by Josh Hull from the Michigan IIS (MCIR) and Steve Murchie from Envision Technologies. The next meeting is on **Wednesday, 11/15 at 2pm ET**. If you’d like to join, please contact [Maureen Neary](#) and she’ll be happy to send you an invitation with the call details.

SmartyStreets is the shared address cleansing, geocoding service offered at no cost to AIRA members, thanks to funding by AIRA and the CDC.

For an overview of the service, check out the informational webinars AIRA held on [6/1/17](#) and [6/8/17](#). If you're interested in integrating SmartyStreets into your workflow, check out the [Implementation Guide](#) for planning purposes.

-Submitted by Maureen Neary, AIRA

NDC AND LOT NUMBER RESOURCES

As many IIS and Electronic Health Record Systems (EHRs) across the community develop and enhance National Drug Code (NDC) functionality and inventory decrementing using NDC and/or lot numbers, we wanted to take a minute to remind our members of two important resources available to guide both development and messaging:

CDC, in collaboration with AIRA community input, developed a helpful resource last summer titled [Updated Guidance for Documenting Vaccine National Drug Codes \(NDCs\) and Lot Numbers in IISs and EHRs](#). This guidance was published in June 2017, and is available for both immunization providers and city/state IIS staff.

AIRA, via the Standards and Interoperability Steering Committee (SISC), then published [Vaccine Lot Number Patterns: Unit of Sale/Unit of Use Guidance](#) in July 2017. This document replaces earlier MIROW guidance on using pattern matching to link Unit of Use (UoU) and Unit of Sale (UoS) lot numbers across the industry.

One or both of these resources may be helpful to better manage and message code set and inventory topics internally and with external partners.

-Submitted by Mary Beth Kurilo, AIRA

THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON IMMUNIZATION PRACTICES (ACIP) OCTOBER MEETING SUMMARY

The Advisory Committee on Immunization practices (ACIP) met October 25-26 with four votes, a couple important updates, and numerous informational discussions on the agenda which will likely impact your IIS.

Votes

The following policy votes were taken by ACIP and will become official when their MMWR's are published in the coming months.

- **Herpes Zoster:** ACIP voted to recommend a two-dose schedule for a new Herpes Zoster subunit vaccine (HZ/su), brand name Shingrix, in immunocompetent adults aged 50 years or older. It was further recommended that this vaccine be preferred over the current live zoster vaccine (ZVL), and HZ/su should be given to patients who previously received ZVL.
- **MMR:** ACIP voted to recommend a 3rd dose of MMR to persons previously vaccinated with two doses of a mumps-containing vaccine and are identified by public health as at increased risk for mumps because of an outbreak.
- **2018 Adult Schedule:** As is customary at the October meeting, the annual adult schedule was approved by ACIP. The adult schedule harmonizes all of the adult recommendations of ACIP into one succinct document. Publication typically occurs in January or February.
- **2018 Childhood and Adolescent Schedule:** Similar to the annual adult schedule, an annual childhood and adolescent schedule was also voted on and approved by ACIP. The childhood and adolescent recommendations harmonize all of the birth through 18 recommendations of ACIP into one succinct document.

Important Updates

The following product updates were provided by ACIP during the meeting.

- **Afluria Quadrivalent:** Afluria Quadrivalent (IIV4, Seqirus) was previously licensed for ages 18+ is now licensed for 5+.
- **Menomune Discontinuation:** Menomune (MPSV4, Sanofi Pasteur) is now discontinued with the last lots expiring in either June or September 2017. More information can be found [here](#).

Informational Discussion

One informational discussion of note is the potential introduction of a new Hep B vaccine (Hepislav-B, Dynavax) for patients aged 18+ which can be administered as a 2-dose series. ACIP will continue to monitor this vaccine, but no formal recommendations have been voted on by ACIP at this time. It should be further noted that Hepislav-B is still working towards FDA approval.

~Submitted by Eric Larson and Rebecca Coyle, AIRA

AIRA MEMBERSHIP OFFERS MANY BENEFITS!

There are many reasons to become an AIRA member including registration discounts to the [AIRA 2018 National Meeting](#), voting benefits, use of an AIRA member logo, receipt of AIRA publications and access to member-only resources.

Join your peers all over the country in becoming a 2017-2018 AIRA member today! AIRA membership can be paid with a credit card over the phone, [online](#) or by check. If you wish to pay for membership via direct electronic deposit, please note AIRA's bank information has changed; [Amanda Dayton](#) can help answer any questions you may have.

If you have questions or would like to receive a gold member invoice, please email [Amanda Branham](#) or call (202) 552-0189. We hope you will renew your AIRA membership soon!



AIRA NATIONAL MEETING TRAINING & EDUCATION PACKAGE

To better serve the needs of our members, AIRA is offering a Training & Education Package to help continental U.S. IIS members attend the [AIRA 2018 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](#). If you are interested in purchasing this package or have any questions, please contact [Amanda Branham](#).

OCTOBER RECAP

Assessment Steering Committee

- The Assessment Steering Committee (ASC) is launching a project to develop a new coverage assessment guide. The purpose of the guide is to help IIS and immunization program staff identify actual pockets of need using local area coverage assessment analyses and determine when to take action.

- The ASC meets on quarterly basis and the next meeting will be held on December 5th at 2pm ET.

Standards and Interoperability Steering Committee

- The Standards and Interoperability Steering Committee (SISC) met on October 11th and discussed standardized error codes and expectations for error-generating and error-receiving systems. The committee also conversed how to handle MVX codes when a vaccine is sent from a relabeler. Discussion on this topic will resume on the next call.
- The SISC Technical Workgroup met on October 27th and reviewed AIRA's draft comments on ONC's 2018 Interoperability Standards Advisory. The workgroup also continued to discuss comments related to required LOINC codes, dose validity and required message types.

Education Steering Committee

- The Education Steering Committee (ESC) met on October 18th and received an update from the Public Health Informatics Institute's Informatics Academy. Currently, articles are also being accepted for the next edition of Snapshots. Looking ahead, the committee discussed the focus of ESC webinars and topics for the upcoming year. A draft of the education plan being based on 2017 Education Survey results was also reviewed.

MIROW Steering Committee

- The MIROW Steering Committee (SC) met on October 19th to review action items and next steps that were a result of the in-person strategic planning session held in August.
 - The SC finalized the implementation plan and will be presented to the AIRA Board for approval. This implementation plan will help outline MIROW activities for the next year.
 - The current topic, Consolidating Demographic Records and Vaccination Event Records, has been finalized and published. See separate article outlined in this monthly update issue for more details.
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