



Topic: Exemptions

Request Date: October 8, 2020

Information Requested:

Colorado recently passed legislation requiring providers to report immunization and exemption data to the IIS. In addition, personal and religious exemptions will no longer be accepted and they will all be lumped into a non-medical exemption category.

With these changes, Colorado is evaluating its import processes and any changes that need to be made. Please provide insight into the following questions.

- Are other awardees tracking exemptions within the IIS? If yes, how?
- If exemptions are being reported via HL7 messaging, how is the message formatted? Do you see variations in message format, from different vendors? If yes, can you provide additional insight?

Requesting Member: Kim Gulliver (CO)

Responding Member(s): Mary Woinarowicz (ND)

Results:

ND:

North Dakota does capture vaccine exemptions in our IIS. Users are able to document history of disease for hepatitis A, hepatitis B, measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella. They can also document a medical, religious, or moral/philosophical exemption for any individual vaccine or all vaccines. Once an exemption is entered in the IIS, our CDSi no longer forecasts doses for the vaccine exempted. We require that the exemption reason, vaccine, and exemption date. The IIS also requires the user documenting the exemption enter a comment with additional detail (i.e. the lab confirmation for history of disease or who signed the personal belief exemption, etc.).

In 2016, we added the ability for provider EHRs to send exemptions to the NDIIS via HL7. Evidence of immunity can be sent in an OBX segment and substance refusal for medical, religious, or moral/philosophical exemption can be sent in RXA-18. However, we have not had any exemptions submitted through our HL7 interfaces. All exemptions in the NDIIS have been entered manually through our user interface.



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INFORMATION REQUEST

We also track exemption rates for infants, kids, and adolescents quarterly using data from the NDIIS. This data is published to our website:

<https://www.health.nd.gov/immunize/coverage-rates>.