



Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

NEWS RELEASE

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Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

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Brand new immunization tracking system for state's vaccine registry

DENVER--The Colorado Immunization Information System at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has launched an improved electronic tracking system that is faster and safer for health care providers to retrieve and store patients' immunization records. The project to launch this new tracking system has been in progress for nearly a year in order to ensure that the new system meets the needs of Colorado providers and those providers are adequately trained and prepared to use the new system.

Diana Herrero, program manager for the Colorado Immunization Information System, said, "We are proud to now offer health care professionals a more efficient vaccine registry that will make their jobs easier when they meet with patients. By participating in the electronic registry, health care professionals, parents and individuals can rest assured their immunization records are accurate, complete and confidential."

Dr. Chris Urbina, executive director and chief medical officer of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, said, "I'm very pleased that the department's Colorado Immunization Information System program has been able to successfully complete this critical transition to a more robust immunization registry. The new system will be of great benefit to parents, healthcare providers and schools. It will improve our efforts to provide immunizations to all Coloradans in a timely way."

Herrero explained the registry is a confidential, population-based, computerized system that collects and disseminates immunization information for Coloradans of all ages. The registry enables any immunization provider in Colorado to electronically track immunizations a person has received, thereby maintaining an ongoing and complete record to ensure the person receives all recommended vaccinations in a timely manner.

The improved electronic tracking system includes the following key features:

- Expanded demographics tracking allows health care providers to better maintain and update relevant information about their patients. Health care providers now may enter additional demographic information (all confidential) for their patients, including

information about health insurance, employment, medical home and emergency contacts.

- An enhanced window display allows health care providers to quickly check their computer's monitor during appointments and learn what vaccines are recommended for their patients.
- Vaccine inventory tracking allows registry users to effectively manage their vaccine inventory. Any adjustments made to vaccine inventories, such as administered, recalled and expired doses, are reflected in inventory totals so the health care provider has an accurate picture of what vaccines are available in their office at any given time.

In a recent three-month period, the Colorado immunization registry recorded 13.8 million actions by users of its systems from 3,530 active users representing more than 700 organizations.

Funding for this project was paid for by one-time federal grant dollars provided to the state to support H1N1 response efforts in 2009-2010.

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