



New Mexico Department of Health  
Immunization Program

# Immunization Update

Fall 2005

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## A NMSIIS Primer

At long last, the New Mexico Statewide Immunization Information System is nearly ready to 'go live'. This issue of *Immunization Update* focuses on what VFC providers need to know now to be a part of this exciting advance for New Mexico's children.



### Bringing Providers On: The Timeline

NMSIIS will 'roll out' in two phases. Phase I will begin in the Winter of 2005-06 with 10 or so practices being trained and given access to NMSIIS. Then, beginning in the Spring of 2006, we will begin to bring on other providers and users.

The first step in the enrollment process is completion of the Provider Survey available on our website. As of November, fewer than 10 percent of VFC providers have submitted a survey! The NMSIIS staff will need this information to get your practice enrolled, trained, and using NMSIIS. (For enrollment information, see page 3, "Getting Started on NMSIIS.")

Fall 2005	Winter 2006	Spring 2006	Summer 2006	Fall 2006
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Villa Theresa pilot study

NMSIIS Roll-out Phase I: Ten or so providers.

NMSIIS Roll-out Phase II: Everyone else.

### Villa Therese Clinic Update: Rates are Up!

In February of 2005, Villa Therese Catholic Clinic in Santa Fe became the first VFC provider in New Mexico to begin using the NMSIIS test system. Since then, Villa Therese has used NMSIIS to track the immunization status of its children under 2 years old. Nurses at Villa Therese have manually entered over 200 children's records into NMSIIS. They have been able to print reports of children who were behind on their shots, and used the forecasting function to determine vaccinations due. Villa Therese will become the first site enrolled in the fully operational system.

**And the really good news?** At Villa Therese, the 4:3:1:3:3 coverage rate for 2 year olds rose to 88% from 53% two years ago. In addition to using NMSIIS, Villa Therese also uses the 'Done By One' accelerated schedule. The NMSIIS team is very grateful to nurses Margie Sullivan-Branch and Ramona Anaya, and Villa Therese Director Leah Steimel for accepting the challenge of piloting NMSIIS.

## Those Annoying 'Part B' Forms: the Historical Shot Record for NMSIIS

Providers have been submitting 'Part B' forms to the State for nearly a decade now with little benefit for their effort. This effort is now paying off since at least 10 years of part B data is entered into the DOH INPHORM database. INPHORM data and Medicaid information will be used to populate NMSIIS as the major sources of legacy immunization data. The INPHORM component alone will amount to over 8 million shots!

### How complete is the INPHORM record?

To estimate the completeness and accuracy of the INPHORM database, we randomly sampled a total of 434 patient medical records obtained from 30 practices during provider site visits and compared shots recorded in the medical record to shots recorded in INPHORM.

Results of the survey, based on 2001 data, show that:

- 67% of shots recorded in provider offices were available

in INPHORM. This represents a valuable data bank for New Mexico providers. Most states have no historical record for their immunization registries!

- The completeness of shot record submission varied widely by practice, from as low as 17% for one practice to over 90% for two others.
- Additional shots not found in the provider records were found in INPHORM, amounting to an average of 1 additional shot per patient.
- The data entry error rates were low: Shots and dates of administration were 97% accurate between the medical record and INPHORM.

**Remember: Practices who submit Part Bs for all shots administered will have the most complete NMSIIS records for their patients!**

### Scannable 'Part B' Forms: Do's and Don'ts

Continued submission of Part B forms to the NM Immunization Program will ensure that those shots are entered into NMSIIS. Submission within 3 weeks of administration is important so that the shots will be entered in NMSIIS in time for the next patient visit.

Accuracy is also critical. Providers, patients, and schools are all counting on NMSIIS being a source of accurate immunization information. Please do your best to submit accurate information to NMSIIS.

The 'Part B' form is now 'scannable' to allow efficient capture and data conversion of handwritten information. To ensure that the shots you record on the Part B forms are accurately interpreted by the scanning software, please follow the guidelines at the right.

### Avoid these mistakes!

**NO STAPLES!**

**mmddyyyy format only**

**Print in BLOCK CAPITAL LETTERS only.**

**Do not write or stamp corners or form number box.**

**If information is not available, leave that section blank. Scanners cannot interpret crossed-out information, dashes, or 'NA' notation.**

**Fill bubbles completely. Marks like this one may not be picked up by scanners.**

**The lot number of the vaccine is required information.**

**Do not include expiration date in Lot # box.**

**Make sure your signature doesn't extend into the box above it. The marks in the vaccine administration box might be read by the scanner as a vaccine administered.**

## Getting Started on NMSIIS

The first step in the enrollment process is for someone from your practice to fill out and submit the provider survey which can be viewed at [www.health.state.nm.us/immunize/Pages/Provider/NMSIIS/NMSIISsurvey.html](http://www.health.state.nm.us/immunize/Pages/Provider/NMSIIS/NMSIISsurvey.html). This survey can either be submitted on-line, or printed out and sent by mail to NMSIIS staff. (Address is on survey form.)

### When can I begin using NMSIIS?

A group of about 10 providers will begin using NMSIIS in Winter 2005-06. Lessons learned from this group will be used to fine-tune NMSIIS for the open enrollment and training of providers scheduled to begin in the Spring of 2006. VFC providers will receive an enrollment packet by mail or can download enrollment documents from our website. Stay tuned.

### Who can I contact now if I have questions about making sure my practice becomes part of NMSIIS?

Questions go to Steve Nickell, Immunization Program Manager, at 505-827-2463 or Cleve Bryant, NMSIIS Project Director, at 505-827-2430.

### What equipment will my practice need?

A computer with an internet connection is required. A high-speed connection is preferred although a dial-up connection will work.

### How will my staff be trained to use NMSIIS?

Classroom training sessions will be held in locations across New Mexico beginning in Spring 2006. Each enrolling practice will need to volunteer one person to coordinate NMSIIS access for that site and train site users. On-site training in provider offices may be available in some cases, and telephone help desk assistance will be available to all enrolled providers.

### How is immunization data entered into NMSIIS?

Enrolled providers are expected to submit immunization data to NMSIIS on a timely basis (2-3 weeks after administration) so that information will be available for the next patient visit. There are several options for submitting data:

- Manual entry of data into NMSIIS using the Web interface. No 'Part B' form needs to be submitted under this option.
- Upload of immunization information data extracts from provider's existing electronic medical record (EMR) or billing data. No 'Part B' form needs to be submitted under this option.
- Bidirectional data exchange between provider EMR and NMSIIS using HL7 messaging. No 'Part B' form needs to be submitted under this option.
- Submission of completed scannable 'Part B' forms to the DOH for scanning and upload to NMSIIS.

## NMSIIS Website

For more information on NMSIIS, visit the expanded NMSIIS website at: [www.health.state.nm.us/immunize/nmsiis.html](http://www.health.state.nm.us/immunize/nmsiis.html)

Topics/sections include:

- Why Are Immunization Information Systems Needed?
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Powerpoint presentations  
*NMSIIS: A Preview*  
*NMSIIS: Screenshots*
- NMSIIS Documents/Forms  
*Outreach Proposal*
- Data Exchange Formats  
*Ascii/Text*  
*HL7 2.3.1*  
*HL7 2.4 & Real-Time*
- Training Materials  
*User Manuals*  
*Online Training (coming)*
- Enrollment (coming)  
*Organization Agreement*  
*Individual User Agreement*  
*NMSIIS Disclosure*  
*NMSIIS Refusal Form*  
*NMSIIS Agreement to Participate After Refusal Form*  
*NMSIIS Policies and Procedures Handbook*

**For more information, contact the New Mexico Immunization Program:**

**State Program Office**

*Program Manager*  
 Steve Nickell 827-2463  
*CDC Public Health Advisor*  
 Anne Lutz 827-0219  
*VFC Manager*  
 Carly Christian 827-2898  
*CASA/QI Coordinator*  
 Cynthia Rawn 827-0196

**Regional Offices**

**Regions 1 and 3**  
*Immunization Coordinator*  
 Getty Johnston 873-7438  
*Disease Prevention Specialist*  
 Denise Ortiz 873-7493

**Region 2**  
 To be named 476-2628

**Region 4**  
*Immunization Nurses*  
 Suzanne Cox 347-2409  
 Helen Hall 397-2463

**Region 5**  
*Immunization Coordinator*  
 Debby Hanus 528-5104  
*Immunization Nurse*  
 Millie Aproda 258-3252

**Coming soon: Online NMSIIS Training Tool**

**NMSIIS User Manual**  
**Typical User**

- Why Immunization Registries?
- Help Desk/Contact Info
- 'Typical User' Functionality
- Navigating this Manual
- Getting Started
  - System Requirements
  - Accessing the NMSIIS Website
  - Creating a 'Favorite' and 'Shortcuts'
  - Logging In and Exiting NMSIIS
  - Changing Your Password
- Home Page
- Managing Clients
  - Finding Clients
  - Entering, Editing, and Saving
- Lists
- Managing Lists

**To Search for a Client, select the manage client link in the Client section of the Menu Panel**

Check at: [www.health.state.nm.us/immunize/nmsiis.html](http://www.health.state.nm.us/immunize/nmsiis.html)



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