



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 5, 2002
TO: County Health Department Directors/Administrators
FROM: Bonita J. Sorensen, M.D., M.B.A. *B. Sorensen M.D.*
Deputy Secretary for Health
SUBJECT: Assessment of County Health Department
Clinic Immunization Coverage Levels (2002)

INFORMATION ONLY

In July, the Bureau of Immunization completed an annual assessment of immunization coverage levels of two-year-old children receiving services in county health departments. The Clinic Assessment Software Application (CASA), developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, was used to assess county health department (CHD) clinic immunization coverage rates. These assessments were conducted at all individual clinic sites and were combined to obtain a county total. These CASAs were accomplished using export files from the Immunization Module utilizing all active records of children 24 to 35 months of age with a common review date of January 1, 2002.

CASA is an excellent management tool to assist health care providers in assessing and managing the immunization status of their clients. This software is widely used by both public and private providers to identify intervention strategies for increasing immunization coverage levels. It is also used for measuring success in reaching the year 2010 national goal of 90 percent coverage at 24 months of age for each of the following: 4 DTaP, 3 polio, 1 MMR, 3 Hib, and 3 hepatitis B.

Statewide results, shown in Attachment 1, indicate that only 73 percent of CHD clients between 24 and 35 months of age received 4 DTaP, 3 polio, 1 MMR, 3 Hib, and 3 hepatitis B vaccines by 24 months of age; and that 76 percent received 4 DTaP, 3 polio, and 1 MMR vaccine by 24 months of age. The individual county results for the primary series of 4/3/1/3/3 range from 37 to 98 percent with the majority of CHDs significantly below the 90 percent goal. These results indicate that CHDs should evaluate their immunization policies and practices in order to achieve the 90 percent goal.

The purpose of the assessment is to determine the immunization coverage levels of two-year-old children served by the CHDs. It also identifies areas where CHDs can focus their efforts to improve coverage levels. Both clinic and countywide results should be discussed as part of ongoing quality assurance reviews and used to develop solutions to the problems identified. CHD staff can, as needed, routinely use CASA to assess coverage levels and evaluate service delivery. Assessments provide data about vaccine delivery practices and vaccine coverage that motivate and assist staff in developing and implementing best practices. In addition, the *Standards of Pediatric Immunization Practices*' Standard 14 promotes semi-annual audits to assess immunization coverage levels and a review of immunization records in the provider's patient population.

In order to reach the year 2010 goal of 90 percent immunization coverage among our two-year-old children, energy and resources need to be focused in the following key areas:

- Implement fully the CHD Guidebook immunization internal operating policies and technical assistance guidelines.
- Develop effective strategies for achieving high, sustainable vaccine coverage levels.
- Assess the impact of intervention and service delivery practices.
- Utilize all clinic encounters to assess immunization status and provide appropriate immunizations.
- Use the CASA Diagnostic Report for analysis of missed opportunities, simultaneous immunizations, and drop-out rates.
- Use the Immunization Module reminder/recall function to maintain clients on the recommended schedule.
- Eliminate duplicate client records in the Health Clinic Management System.
- Inactivate clients in the Immunization Module who are documented as having moved or gone elsewhere.
- Assign clients to the correct immunization record site location which reflects their immunization home—CHD by specific clinic, specific private provider, or a generic private provider site.

In addition to measuring our success in reaching the 90 percent coverage goal, the annual assessment results are used as a performance standard for CHD directors. If you have any questions or comments, please contact your area Bureau of Immunization field staff as indicated in Attachment 2.

BJS/cha/fhd
Attachments

cc: Annie R. Neasman, R.N., M.S.
Deputy Secretary for Health
Landis K. Crockett, M.D., M.P.H., Director
Division of Disease Control
Meade Grigg, Director
Office of Planning, Evaluation, and Data Analysis
Annette Phelps, A.R.N.P., M.S.N., Director
Division of Family Health Services
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Charles H. Alexander, Chief
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County Health Department Nursing Directors
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**COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT CLIENT IMMUNIZATION COVERAGE
LEVELS* AT 24 MONTHS OF AGE, JANUARY 1, 2002**

County	Total Clients Sampled	Complete with 4/3/1**		Complete with 4/3/1/3/3***	
		Clients	%	Clients	%
Alachua	306	269	88%	268	88%
Baker	51	46	90%	46	90%
Bay	631	487	77%	472	75%
Bradford	97	70	72%	68	70%
Brevard	526	496	94%	492	94%
Broward	1034	471	46%	387	37%
Calhoun	31	29	94%	29	94%
Charlotte	437	353	81%	348	80%
Citrus	276	247	89%	243	88%
Clay	238	192	81%	187	79%
Collier	492	367	75%	341	69%
Columbia	56	50	89%	49	88%
Miami-Dade	3461	1623	47%	1342	39%
DeSoto	221	94	43%	88	40%
Dixie	65	54	83%	53	82%
Duval	1632	1297	79%	1258	77%
Escambia	1271	1044	82%	1030	81%
Flagler	71	65	92%	64	90%
Franklin	58	55	95%	54	93%
Gadsden	57	47	82%	45	79%
Gilchrist	61	51	84%	51	84%
Glades	47	33	70%	31	66%
Gulf	85	83	98%	83	98%
Hamilton	68	65	96%	65	96%
Hardee	239	139	58%	129	54%
Hendry	197	152	77%	142	72%
Hernando	138	132	96%	131	95%
Highlands	107	86	80%	84	79%
Hillsborough	1931	1456	75%	1400	73%
Holmes	80	67	84%	65	81%
Indian River	359	323	90%	320	89%
Jackson	37	32	86%	31	84%
Jefferson	23	18	78%	18	78%
Lafayette	29	23	79%	21	72%
Lake	238	220	92%	218	92%
Lee	530	341	64%	325	61%
Leon	151	136	90%	134	89%
Levy	57	57	100%	57	100%
Liberty	22	21	95%	20	91%
Madison	90	64	71%	63	70%
Manatee	450	366	81%	358	80%
Marion	1416	1249	88%	1234	87%
Martin	290	250	86%	243	84%
Monroe	279	191	68%	175	63%
Nassau	110	77	70%	75	68%
Okaloosa	628	550	88%	538	86%
Okeechobee	22	17	77%	17	77%

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County	Total Clients Sampled	Complete with 4/3/1**		Complete with 4/3/1/3/3***	
		Clients	%	Clients	%
Orange	1932	1726	89%	1683	87%
Osceola	813	596	73%	528	65%
Palm Beach	1400	1160	83%	1108	79%
Pasco	611	585	96%	574	94%
Pinellas	618	595	96%	585	95%
Polk	1183	815	69%	773	65%
Putnam	138	125	91%	124	90%
Saint Johns	335	254	76%	249	74%
Saint Lucie	277	224	81%	221	80%
Santa Rosa	343	285	83%	281	82%
Sarasota	511	374	73%	354	69%
Seminole	476	429	90%	416	87%
Sumter	119	113	95%	113	95%
Suwannee	90	69	77%	68	76%
Taylor	18	14	78%	14	78%
Union	50	42	84%	39	78%
Volusia	652	546	84%	532	82%
Wakulla	57	40	70%	39	68%
Walton	163	149	91%	149	91%
Washington	117	99	85%	99	85%
State Total	28598	21795	76%	20841	73%

* Review includes children who were 24-35 months of age on January 1, 2002, using Clinic Assessment Software Application (CASA) Version 2.0.

** Immunization coverage level for DTP/DTaP 4, OPV/IPV 3, and MMR 1.

*** Immunization coverage level for DTP/DTaP 4, OPV/IPV 3, MMR 1, Hib 3, and Hep B 3