

**Mission:**

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



**Rick Scott**  
Governor

**Celeste Philip, MD, MPH**  
Surgeon General and Secretary

**Vision:** To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

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**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** July 7, 2017

**TO:** County Health Department Directors/Administrators

**FROM:**  Carina Blackmore, DVM, PhD, Dipl ACVPM  
Director, Division of Disease Control and Health Protection

**SUBJECT:** Child Care and Head Start Facilities Immunization Assessment 2016–2017 School Year

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**INFORMATION ONLY**

In December 2016, the Florida Department of Health's (DOH) Immunization Section completed the annual *Child Care and Head Start Facilities Immunization Assessment 2016–2017*, in collaboration with the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF). Florida Administrative Code Rule 65C-22.006 requires that prior to entry or attendance into a Florida licensed child care facility, each child shall have on file a *Florida Certification of Immunization* (DH Form 680).

This assessment assists the DOH in evaluating the immunization status of children in licensed child care facilities (including Head Starts), based on the recommendation by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. Florida's goal, as well as the national goal, is for 90 percent of children in licensed child care facilities, to be fully immunized for their age.

The child care facilities were derived from DCF's *Master List of Child Care Providers*. The Head Start population was derived from the Head Start Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center's Head Start Locator list. Facilities having a membership of  $\leq 15$  children the previous school year were eliminated from the sample population.

As the ratio of facilities fitting sample selection criteria was 93 percent child care facilities and seven percent Head Start facilities, the sample generated was 223 child care and 17 Head Start facilities. Field staff representatives audited 10 randomly-selected immunization records of children 19 months of age and older (up to 59 months of age), per facility, totaling 2,400 records. They also audited up to 10 records of children under 19 months of age, per facility if applicable, totaling 848 records. The results of this assessment reflect those 3,248 randomly selected records.

**Child Care Specific:**

Of the 2,230 children 19 months of age and older, 94.6 percent were fully immunized with four or more (valid) doses of diphtheria, tetanus toxoids, and acellular pertussis [DTaP] vaccine, three or more doses of inactivated poliovirus vaccine [IPV], one or more doses of measles, mumps and rubella [MMR]

vaccine, complete for age for *Haemophilus influenzae* type b [Hib] vaccine and pneumococcal conjugate vaccine [PCV], and one or more doses of varicella vaccine [VZV] (or disease history). Of the remaining children in this age group, 3.9 percent had a valid exemption from immunization, 0.1 percent had no immunization record on file, and 1.4 percent should have been issued a Temporary Medical Exemption (TME) but were not. Children with properly documented immunization records totaled 93.5 percent (Table 1).

Of the 819 children under 19 months of age, 89.0 percent were not due immunization at the time of the assessment. Children with valid exemptions accounted for 3.2 percent of the total, and 7.8 percent were overdue for immunization. Children with properly documented immunization records totaled 89.4 percent (Table 2).

#### Head Start Specific:

Of the 170 children 19 months of age and older, 97.1 percent were fully immunized, 0.6 percent had a valid exemption from immunization, and 2.4 percent should have been issued a TME but were not. All children had an immunization record on file, and 93.5 percent of those records were properly documented (Table 1).

Of the 29 children under 19 months of age, 96.6 percent were not due immunization at the time of the assessment. None had exemptions, and 3.4 percent (1 child) was overdue for immunization. Children with properly documented immunization records totaled 72.4 percent (Table 2). With such a small number of children sampled, these data do not necessarily represent the target population. Only five of the 17 facilities sampled had children in this age group, and seven of the eight children without proper documentation attended the same school.

#### Opportunities for Improvement:

Contact those medical providers who incorrectly certify DH Form 680. Provide the *Creating Forms in Florida SHOTS* link regarding electronic immunization record certification. Contact local child care centers and ask to review student immunization records together, and provide guidance related to child care immunization requirements. Provide a physical or electronic copy of the current *Immunization Guidelines for Florida Schools, Childcare Facilities and Family Daycare Homes*. Explain to the child care center staff, the proper use of the 30-day grace period, and if not already in use, explain the benefits of having a reliable tracking system by TME expiration date.

Collaborate with DCF district child care licensing staff to ensure facilities maintain adequate tracking and follow-up methods for children with incomplete immunizations. Children must be age-appropriately immunized, with proper documentation supporting each child's current immunization status.

If you have questions regarding this assessment, please contact your area field staff representative (see attached list) or our survey and assessment consultant, Ms. Amy Wilson, at 850-245-4342, extension 2395.

CB/RMG/aw  
Enclosures

cc: Florida Department of Children and Families  
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County Health Department Nursing Directors  
Immunization Section Field Staff Representatives

## Child Care and Head Start Facilities Immunization Assessment 2016–2017 School Year

<b>Table 1</b>		
<b>Immunization Levels of Children ≥19 Months of Age</b>		
	Head Start Facilities	Child Care Facilities
Number Records Reviewed	170	2,230
Percent Fully Immunized with Required Vaccines <sup>1</sup>	97.1 ± 2.5	94.6 ± 0.9
Percent Proper Documentation	93.5 ± 3.7	93.5 ± 1.0
Percent Temporary Medical Exemptions without Required Vaccines <sup>1</sup>	0.0 ± 0.0	1.3 ± 0.5
Percent Permanent Medical Exemptions	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0
Percent Valid Religious Exemptions	0.6 ± 1.1	2.2 ± 0.6
Percent 30-Day Exemptions	0.0 ± 0.0	0.4 ± 0.2
Percent 4 DTaP	97.1 ± 2.5	95.5 ± 0.9
Percent 3 Polio	97.1 ± 2.5	96.3 ± 0.8
Percent 1 MMR	99.4 ± 1.1	96.7 ± 0.7
Percent Hib complete <sup>2</sup>	99.4 ± 1.1	96.6 ± 0.7
Percent Varicella compliant <sup>3</sup>	99.4 ± 1.1	96.6 ± 0.7
Percent Pneumococcal (PCV) complete <sup>2</sup>	99.4 ± 1.1	96.5 ± 0.8

<b>Table 2</b>		
<b>Immunization Levels of Children &lt;19 Months of Age</b>		
	Head Start Facilities	Child Care Facilities
Number Records Reviewed	29	819
Percent Not Due Immunizations	96.6 ± 6.6	89.0 ± 2.1
Percent Past Due Immunizations	3.4 ± 6.6	7.8 ± 1.8
Percent Permanent Medical Exemption; Religious Exemption; or Enrolled < 30 Days	0.0 ± 0.0	3.2 ± 1.2
Percent Proper Documentation	72.4 ± 16.3	89.4 ± 2.1

<sup>1</sup>Four or more (valid) doses of diphtheria, tetanus toxoids, and acellular pertussis [DTaP] vaccine, three or more doses of inactivated poliovirus vaccine [IPV], one or more doses of measles, mumps and rubella [MMR] vaccine, complete for age for *Haemophilus influenzae* type b [Hib] vaccine and pneumococcal conjugate vaccine [PCV], and one or more doses of varicella vaccine [VZV] (or disease history).

<sup>2</sup>Up-to-date for age.

<sup>3</sup>One or more doses of vaccine or proof of disease history.

Child Care and Head Start Facilities Immunization Assessment  
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<b>Table 3</b>					
<b>Child Care Facilities, By School Year, 2012–2013 through 2016–2017</b>					
<b>Immunization Levels of Children ≥19 Months of Age</b>	<b>2012–13</b>	<b>2013–14</b>	<b>2014–15</b>	<b>2015–16</b>	<b>2016–17</b>
Number Records Reviewed	2,230	2,230	2,230	2,170	2,230
Percent Fully Immunized with Required Vaccines <sup>1</sup>	93.0	92.4	94.9	94.5	94.6
Percent Temporary Medical Exemptions without Required Vaccines <sup>1</sup>	3.1	3.2	1.0	1.5	1.3
Percent Proper Documentation	91.3	92.8	93.1	94.3	93.5
<b>Immunization Levels of Children &lt;19 Months of Age</b>	<b>2012–13</b>	<b>2013–14</b>	<b>2014–15</b>	<b>2015–16</b>	<b>2016–17</b>
Number Records Reviewed	831	763	852	943	819
Percent Not Due Immunizations	86.0	89.3	92.0	90.0	89.0
Percent Past Due	11.1	9.3	5.6	7.5	7.8
Percent Permanent Medical Exemption; Religious Exemption; or Enrolled <30 Days	2.9	1.4	2.3	2.4	3.2
Percent Proper Documentation	92.9	89.8	93.1	91.6	89.4

<b>Table 4</b>					
<b>Head Start Facilities, By School Year, 2012–2013 through 2016–2017</b>					
<b>Immunization Levels of Children ≥19 Months of Age</b>	<b>2012–13</b>	<b>2013–14</b>	<b>2014–15</b>	<b>2015–16</b>	<b>2016–17</b>
Number Records Reviewed	170	170	170	170	170
Percent Fully Immunized with Required Vaccines <sup>1</sup>	96.5	95.3	97.1	97.6	97.1
Percent Temporary Medical Exemptions without Required Vaccines <sup>1</sup>	2.4	4.1	0.6	1.2	0.0
Percent Proper Documentation	95.9	97.1	96.5	97.6	93.5
<b>Immunization Levels of Children &lt;19 Months of Age</b>	<b>2012–13</b>	<b>2013–14</b>	<b>2014–15</b>	<b>2015–16</b>	<b>2016–17</b>
Number Records Reviewed	59	33	35	7	29
Percent Not Due Immunizations					96.6
Percent Past Due	3.4	0.0	2.9	0.0	3.4
Percent Permanent Medical Exemption; Religious Exemption; or Enrolled <30 Days	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Percent Proper Documentation	94.9	93.9	100.0	85.7	72.4

<sup>1</sup>Four or more (valid) doses of diphtheria, tetanus toxoids, and acellular pertussis [DTaP] vaccine, three or more doses of inactivated poliovirus vaccine [IPV], one or more doses of measles, mumps and rubella [MMR] vaccine, complete for age for *Haemophilus influenzae* type b [Hib] vaccine and pneumococcal conjugate vaccine [PCV], and one or more doses of varicella vaccine [VZV] (or disease history).