



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 11, 2003
TO: County Health Department Directors/Administrators
FROM: Bonita J. Sorensen, M.D., M.B.A.
Deputy State Health Officer *B. Sorensen*
SUBJECT: Assessment of County Health Department
Clinic Immunization Coverage Levels (2003)

INFORMATION ONLY

In April, 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, 2003.

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 62 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 70 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 21 to 100 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 that 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/lk

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
Shannon B. Lease, M.S., Director
Office of Performance Improvement
Charles H. Alexander, Chief
Bureau of Immunization
County Health Department Nursing Directors
Bureau of Immunization Field Staff

**COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT CLIENT IMMUNIZATION COVERAGE
LEVELS* AT 24 MONTHS OF AGE, JANUARY 1, 2003**

County	Total Clients Sampled	Complete with 4/3/1**		Complete with 4/3/1/3/3***	
		Clients	%	Clients	%
Alachua****	322	216	67%	210	65%
Baker	53	32	60%	31	58%
Bay	469	314	67%	314	67%
Bradford	117	52	44%	52	44%
Brevard	891	782	88%	779	87%
Broward	1603	516	32%	429	27%
Calhoun	25	22	88%	22	88%
Charlotte	481	295	61%	290	60%
Citrus	262	219	84%	215	82%
Clay	224	164	73%	160	71%
Collier	566	437	77%	418	74%
Columbia	30	27	90%	27	90%
Dade	2899	1034	36%	865	30%
DeSoto	244	76	31%	72	30%
Dixie	63	54	86%	52	83%
Duval	1640	1066	65%	1038	63%
Escambia	841	607	72%	602	72%
Flagler	47	38	81%	38	81%
Franklin	35	33	94%	33	94%
Gadsden	118	72	61%	72	61%
Gilchrist	81	64	79%	64	79%
Glades	39	8	21%	8	21%
Gulf	46	42	91%	41	89%
Hamilton	36	28	78%	28	78%
Hardee	69	55	80%	54	78%
Hendry	155	95	61%	95	61%
Hernando	110	103	94%	103	94%
Highlands	91	57	63%	55	60%
Hillsborough	921	682	74%	662	72%
Holmes	60	48	80%	48	80%
Indian River	371	262	71%	259	70%
Jackson	23	19	83%	19	83%
Jefferson	15	14	93%	14	93%
Lafayette	18	14	78%	14	78%
Lake	231	153	66%	148	64%
Lee	146	89	61%	86	59%
Leon	168	149	89%	145	86%
Levy	16	16	100%	16	100%
Liberty	11	11	100%	11	100%
Madison	64	31	48%	29	45%
Manatee	800	352	44%	331	41%
Marion	1191	793	66%	779	65%
Martin	231	170	74%	163	71%
Monroe	323	203	63%	196	61%

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County	Total Clients Sampled	Complete with 4/3/1**		Complete with 4/3/1/3/3***	
		Clients	%	Clients	%
Nassau	136	48	35%	44	32%
Okaloosa	631	507	80%	500	79%
Okeechobee	32	23	72%	23	72%
Orange	1209	1023	85%	999	83%
Osceola	718	501	70%	459	64%
Palm Beach	1366	925	68%	880	64%
Pasco	609	534	88%	526	86%
Pinellas	453	422	93%	420	93%
Polk	1582	887	56%	868	55%
Putnam	97	68	70%	68	70%
Santa Rosa	282	221	78%	220	78%
Sarasota	513	330	64%	316	62%
Seminole	546	489	90%	469	86%
St. Johns	345	182	53%	181	52%
St. Lucie	225	156	69%	153	68%
Sumter	104	97	93%	97	93%
Suwannee	84	58	60%	57	59%
Taylor	18	6	33%	6	33%
Union	31	22	71%	22	71%
Volusia	581	468	80%	459	79%
Wakulla	40	34	85%	34	85%
Walton	137	103	75%	102	74%
Washington	80	57	71%	57	71%
State Total	25965	16675	64%	16047	62%

* 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.

**** ACHD acknowledges that the CASA was not performed consistent with the instructions issued by C. Alexander