



Charlie Crist
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.
State Surgeon General

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 17, 2010
TO: County Health Department Directors/Administrators
FROM: Shairi R. Turner, M.D., M.P.H.
Deputy Secretary for Health
(Signature on File)
SUBJECT: Survey of Immunization Levels in Two-Year-Old Children (2009)

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

In December 2009, the Bureau of Immunization completed an annual immunization survey of 1,822 randomly selected two-year-old children born in Florida. The survey provides estimated immunization levels for 20 selected counties, as well as statewide figures (see Attachment).

The 2009 statewide coverage rate for the basic 4/3/1/3/3/1 (four DTaP, three polio, one MMR, three Hib, three Hepatitis B, and one Varicella) series is 81.9%. Coverage levels for the 20 largest counties ranged from 64.2% to 93.3%.

The 2009 survey also reflects an 87.2% coverage rate for children two years of age who completed the basic 4/3/1/X/3/1 (four DTaP, three polio, one MMR, three Hepatitis B, and one Varicella) series. In keeping with the National Immunization Survey (NIS), the Bureau ran the basic series without the Hib data for comparison to reflect any impact the Hib recall and modified schedule may have had on the basic series.

The attachment also includes four doses of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine, as reflected in the 4/3/1/3/3/1/4 series. You will note that approximately 32% of the children surveyed are not receiving four doses of pneumococcal conjugate (PCV).

We must continue our efforts to reach and surpass our 2010 national and state goal of 90% coverage for two-year-old children for the 4/3/1/3/3/1 series. Through immunization, we prevent dangerous outbreaks, such as the pertussis outbreaks reported nationally, and ensure a healthy future for our children.

The Bureau of Immunization field staff conducted the survey with the assistance of county health department personnel, private physicians, and parents. The 1,822 survey participants were included, following removal of children who had died, were adopted and were not located, or whose parents refused to participate.

Please note: the Bureau is in the process of automating the immunization surveys through the Florida State Health Online Tracking System (Florida SHOTS) and is only reporting on the basic immunization series for the 2009 reporting period.

Comments:

In recent years, the delivery of immunization services has shifted from the county health departments to the private sector, with private providers and managed care organizations administering over 66% of childhood immunizations. If we are to reach the state goal of 90% immunization coverage levels for each of the vaccines administered to two-year-old children, we need to continue focusing our energy and resources on the following key areas:

- Identify and target interventions toward geographic areas with populations at high risk for under-immunization (pockets of need).
- Continue linkage with the WIC program.
- Implement automated reminder and recall processes using the Florida SHOTS.
- Conduct semi-annual audits in county health department clinics, using the Florida SHOTS, to assess immunization coverage levels, as part of ongoing quality assurance reviews, and to ensure complete immunization of children in the public sector.
- Use reminder and recall systems to improve overall compliance with the recommended immunization schedule, particularly for the fourth dose of DTaP and pneumococcal conjugate vaccines.

In addition, county health departments should increase their partnerships with managed care organizations and private healthcare providers to reach the state goal. Collaborative efforts should include the following:

- Promotion of the *Standards for Pediatric Immunization Practices*.
- Promotion of the statewide immunization registry (Florida SHOTS) by the Department of Health.

If you have any questions or comments about the survey, or if you have found other successful methods to improve your community's immunization levels, please contact the Bureau of Immunization at (850) 245-4342. We are eager to share any best practices that improve immunization rates with other county health departments and private providers.

SRT/cha/lr
Attachment

cc: Steven R. West, M.D., President
Florida Medical Association
Louis B. St. Petery, Jr., M.D., Executive Vice-President
Florida Pediatric Society

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Immunization Levels in Two-Year-old Children By Selected Counties and State, Florida, 2009

| County | Sample Size | *Survey Participants | Completion Percentages with Hib | | Completion Percentages without Hib | |
|------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | | 431331 [†] | 4313314 [‡] | 431x31 ⁺ | 431x314 ⁺⁺ |
| Brevard | 106 | 99 | 80.8% (±7.8%) | 66.7% (±9.3%) | 81.8% (±7.6%) | 67.7% (±9.2%) |
| Broward | 105 | 75 | 93.3% (±5.7%) | 78.7% (±9.3%) | 97.3% (±3.7%) | 80.0% (±9.1%) |
| Collier | 116 | 85 | 84.7% (±7.7%) | 65.9% (±10.1%) | 94.1% (±5.0%) | 72.9% (±9.4%) |
| Dade | 126 | 109 | 89.9% (±5.7%) | 62.4% (±9.1%) | 95.4% (±3.9%) | 66.1% (±8.9%) |
| Duval | 82 | 67 | 77.6% (±10.0%) | 65.7% (±11.4%) | 80.6% (±9.5%) | 68.7% (±11.1%) |
| Escambia | 101 | 81 | 71.6% (±9.8%) | 50.6% (±10.9%) | 90.1% (±6.5%) | 67.9% (±10.2%) |
| Hillsborough | 126 | 109 | 87.2% (±6.3%) | 69.7% (±8.6%) | 89.9% (±5.7%) | 71.6% (±8.5%) |
| Lee | 120 | 96 | 68.8% (±9.3%) | 57.3% (±9.9%) | 86.5% (±6.8%) | 72.9% (±8.9%) |
| Leon | 81 | 65 | 75.4% (±10.5%) | 72.3% (±10.9%) | 89.2% (±7.5%) | 86.2% (±8.4%) |
| Manatee | 107 | 93 | 71.0% (±9.2%) | 54.8% (±10.1%) | 86.0% (±7.1%) | 69.9% (±9.3%) |
| Marion | 90 | 77 | 80.5% (±8.9%) | 62.3% (±10.8%) | 80.5% (±8.9%) | 62.3% (±10.8%) |
| Orange | 100 | 86 | 66.3% (±10.0%) | 57.0% (±10.5%) | 67.4% (±9.9%) | 58.1% (±10.4%) |
| Osceola | 110 | 95 | 64.2% (±9.6%) | 50.5% (±10.1%) | 65.3% (±9.6%) | 50.5% (±10.1%) |
| Palm Beach | 111 | 97 | 76.3% (±8.5%) | 71.1% (±9.0%) | 79.4% (±8.1%) | 73.2% (±8.8%) |
| Pasco | 113 | 97 | 87.6% (±6.6%) | 69.1% (±9.2%) | 89.7% (±6.1%) | 71.1% (±9.0%) |
| Pinellas | 106 | 91 | 85.7% (±7.2%) | 72.5% (±9.2%) | 91.2% (±5.8%) | 78.0% (±8.5%) |
| Polk | 97 | 87 | 75.9% (±9.0%) | 66.7% (±9.9%) | 75.9% (±9.0%) | 66.7% (±9.9%) |
| Sarasota | 93 | 72 | 72.2% (±10.4%) | 66.7% (±10.9%) | 93.1% (±5.9%) | 84.7% (±8.3%) |
| Seminole | 76 | 70 | 75.7% (±10.0%) | 71.4% (±10.6%) | 80.0% (±9.4%) | 75.7% (±10.1%) |
| Volusia | 97 | 81 | 82.7% (±8.2%) | 70.4% (±9.9%) | 85.2% (±7.7%) | 71.6% (±9.8%) |
| All Other Counties | 105 | 90 | 84.4% (±7.5%) | 73.3% (±9.1%) | 91.1% (±5.9%) | 80.0% (±8.3%) |
| Statewide [□] | 2168 | 1822 | 81.9% (±2.2%) | 67.6% (±2.8%) | 87.2% (±1.8%) | 72.0% (±2.7%) |

□ weighted average

^ % + 95% Confidence Interval

* Does not include children who could not be located or those who refused to participate

† Four or more doses DTaP, three or more doses polio vaccine, one or more doses MMR, three or more doses Hib, three or more doses Hepatitis B, and one dose Varicella

± Four or more doses DTaP, three or more doses polio vaccine, one or more doses MMR, three or more doses Hib, three or more doses Hepatitis B, one dose Varicella, four doses PCV

+ Four or more doses DTaP, three or more doses polio vaccine, one or more doses MMR, no Hib doses, three or more doses Hepatitis B, one dose Varicella

++ Four or more doses DTaP, three or more doses polio vaccine, one or more doses MMR, no Hib doses, three or more doses Hepatitis B, one dose Varicella, four doses PCV