

## VIIS

In August 2006, the Virginia

Department of Health's Division of Immunization (VDH/DOI) implemented a statewide immunization registry for the public and private health sectors known as Virginia Immunization Information System (VIIS). VIIS is a confidential, computerized registry used for maintaining information regarding vaccinations for individuals of all ages.

VIIS partners with various organizations, including private providers, hospitals, free clinics, health plans, pharmacies, and more. VIIS is updated weekly with immunization data from local health departments and monthly with demographic information from birth records.

VIIS was utilized by VDH to track the H1N1 vaccines administered throughout the state during the 09-10 flu season. Entering the vaccines into VIIS enabled VDH to monitor vaccine coverage rates throughout the state. Provider participation in the registry increased from 75 organizations in July 2009 to over 3,000 organizations in January 2010. To date, the registry includes 5.7 million people and 29 million immunizations.

The Benefits to using VIIS include:

- Consolidation of immunization records from public and private sectors;
- Ability to access immunization records for clients of all ages from multiple providers;
- Validates immunization history and provides immunization

recommendations based on the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) tracking schedule;

- Provides a proactive list of patients that will be needing vaccines;
- Provides a list of patients over-due vaccinations;
- Includes inventory management system;
- Provides official immunization records an acceptable substitute to the MCH-213F School Entrance forms;
- Reduces rates of under and/or over-immunization and increases rates of vaccine coverage;
- Efficient and cost effective.

The system also benefits parents, schools, communities and public health systems by:

- Helping to ensure that a child's vaccinations are up-to-date;
- Providing reminders when an immunization is due or has been missed;
- Provides accurate copy of a person's immunization history for personal, day care, school, camp, college or employment entry requirements;
- Controls vaccine-preventable diseases and identifies populations at high risk;
- Reduces administrative time and allows staff to focus on crucial issues.

If you have any questions or would like to register for VIIS, call 804-864-8055 and ask for a VIIS consultant or fax 804-864-8089 attention to VIIS Staff.