



NEWSLETTER

VIRGINIA IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION SYSTEM

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2013

VIIS Staff Update

Bethany McCunn, the former VIIS Field Supervisor, has accepted another position with the Virginia Department of Health. She is now the Deputy Division Epidemiologist for the Division of Immunization. We wish her well in her new endeavor!

Influenza Updates in VIIS

With the influenza season at hand, additional information has been added to VIIS. Additions include:

- New trade names
- Quadrivalent formulations
- 0.1 mL dose for intradermal flu vaccine

For assistance with adding the new vaccines, contact your VIIS Consultant or call (804) 864-8055.

In the Spotlight

Travel Health of Williamsburg is participating with VIIS through the user interface, which includes looking up patient immunization histories before administering vaccines, adding historical shots and printing the official immunization report.

Read the full testimony on page 2...

Did You Know...

New HIPAA Regulations

The new HIPAA regulations went into effect on March 26, 2013, but the actual compliance date was September 23, 2013. To read more about these changes, visit <http://www.ama-assn.org/resources/doc/washington/hipaa-omnibus-final-rule-summary.pdf> for a summary by the American Medical Association.

PPSV23

Some senior patients are getting too many *Pneumococcal Polysaccharide* vaccines. Adults aged 65 years and older should be administered a second dose of pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine if they received the vaccine more than 5 years previously, and were younger than 65 years of age at the time of the first dose. Too many PPSV23 shots may cause other issues for the patient.

PPSV23 can be given to persons 2 years of age and older who are at highest risk for serious pneumococcal infection. The second dose should be administered 5 or more years after the first dose. More information can be found in the CDC Pink Book.

Zoster Vaccine

For the prevention of the common disease, Shingles, the ACIP recommends a single dose of zoster vaccine for adults 60 years of age and older whether or not they report a prior episode of herpes zoster (shingles).

VIIS Registration & Training

Are you in need of VIIS training or know a provider/school who wants access? Contact a VIIS Consultant at (804) 864-8055 or viisinfo@vdh.virginia.gov

To register, click on the link below:
<https://vms.vdh.virginia.gov/viis/index.jsp>

Technology Corner

VDH Meaningful Use Registration System

Available Now

For those participating in Meaningful Use (MU), Stage 2 requires notification to VDH of your interest to submit immunization data to VIIS. To make this notification process streamlined for each of the four public health objectives, VDH built a web-based registration system specifically for MU registrants. The system was launched Oct. 1 and should be used at all MU stages (not just Stage 2) by eligible professionals and eligible hospitals in Virginia attesting for public health measures with VDH. You can learn more at our Meaningful Use Website at:

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/meaningfuluse/>

Visit us online at: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/viis>

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I have been in nursing for more than 30 years and have never used a tool like VIIS (the Virginia Immunization Information System). VIIS is the best thing ever invented and everyone in the state should be using it. It has saved me so much time. I do not have to call the providers or the local health departments as much for shot records. Most of my patients are in VIIS with a partial or full record.

VIIS saves the day!

I was able to help a young lady who had come to my office for travel vaccines in the past. She had returned to the U.S. and took another trip to New York. The young lady was involved in an accident and was rushed to a local hospital. The hospital asked if she had received the Td vaccine in the past. The young lady did not know. She called me for help and advice. I was able to find her immunization record in VIIS which showed that she had received the Td vaccine. The young lady did not have to pay for a vaccine that was not needed.

Noticed Vaccine Trends in VIIS

Since gaining access to VIIS, I have noticed trends in the administration of vaccines. A few of the trends are:

- Children between the ages of 14 – 18 years old do not have the 2nd Varicella. This vaccine is highly recommended for travel abroad.
- Infants should be vaccinated with MMR and Varicella before traveling abroad. Even if it is before their required age for the vaccines. The infants are at risk if they do not have these vaccines.
- Patients are getting unnecessary multiple doses of Pneumococcal Polysaccharide vaccine.

VIIS is a very user friendly system. I encourage all providers who administer vaccines to sign-up with VDH and get trained on this system today!

Niki Hooper, RN
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