



NEWSLETTER

VIRGINIA IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION SYSTEM
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

APRIL—JUNE 2018

What's New...

VIIS Staff Updates

Sonja Volker is the new VIIS Data Quality/Business Plan Manager. She has a PhD from the University of Illinois in Biochemical and Molecular Nutrition and a Masters in Biological Health Sciences from Maastricht University in the Netherlands. She is currently working on an Masters in Biostatistics and Clinical Trials from VCU.

2018 CDC Childhood Immunization Champion Award

The CDC Childhood Immunization Champion Award is an annual award that recognizes individuals who make significant contributions toward improving public health through their work in childhood immunization. One awardee from each state and US territory will be announced during National Infant Immunization Week, April 21 - 28, 2018. Virginia selected from three outstanding nominees; Dr. Cathie Harrington, Dr. Cyrelde Fermin, and Donna Deadrick, RN.

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SHINGRIX Schedule in VIIS

The two dose Shingrix vaccine schedule will be added to the VIIS forecaster by the end of April. Shingrix (RZV) is recommended for adults 50 years of age and older, even if they previously received Zostavax (ZVL). Examples of Shingrix schedules in VIIS:

- 1) If one dose of Zostavax was administered, two doses of Shingrix should be given for complete protection.
- 2) If a patient has not received a zoster vaccine, two doses of Shingrix should be administered, separated by 56 days.

Example 1:

1 of 3—Zostavax
2 of 3—Shingrix
3 of 3—Shingrix

Example 2:

1 of 2—Shingrix
2 of 2— Shingrix

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, please visit the link below:
<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/verip>

Did You Know?

West Piedmont Health District

VIIS would like to recognize Careen Rodgers and her staff at the West Piedmont Health District for their excellent effort in promoting and utilizing VIIS daily in their health departments.

Careen advocates for the public school systems to use VIIS. When a Superintendent did not want his schools using VIIS, Careen educated the School Nurse Coordinator on the advantages of having access to VIIS, leading to that entire school district using VIIS.

Careen conducts outreach visits with new medical offices to go over the services and clinics available at each health department. Careen also provides in service education to medical offices on immunizations, and explains how VIIS will benefit that office. If the office is currently using VIIS, she reminds them how important it is to always enter correct data because other providers and schools rely on the information found in VIIS.

Utilizing VIIS helped the district find a local doctor's office that was giving DTap to adults instead of Tdap. The VFC Consultant, VIIS Trainer and Careen, were able to correct this by educating that office.

Clerical staff throughout the West Piedmont Health District use VIIS to run reports for all vaccine clinics as well as STI (Sexually Transmitted Infection) and Family Planning clinics. Clerical staff is trained to enter historical data from VIIS into WebVision at each visit. This process has helped the district to never miss an opportunity to vaccinate.

VIIS is not only a great resource for pediatric patients but for patients of all ages. Occasionally, older clients have come in for a Tdap, but VIIS shows the patient received Tdap a few years prior. As local health departments and doctors' offices are held more accountable for vaccination rates and missed opportunities, Careen encourages all health districts to utilize VIIS at every visit to prevent under or over vaccinating their community!



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2018 CDC Childhood Immunization Champion Award Virginia Nominees

Dr. Cathie Harrington

A leader in promoting childhood immunization in her community for over 17 years, Dr. Harrington is referred to as a “Go-getter” and “Proactive” by her peers. She thinks outside of the box, setting up children’s health fairs at her practice and making parade floats to promote vaccines at local community events. Dr. Harrington is persistent when parents refuse vaccines for their children, sending reminders and recommending vaccines at each visit. She has a bulletin board in her office where parents can place anonymous questions and concerns about vaccines, which she answers personally. Dr. Harrington was nominated for being a “true asset to her community; one that is lucky to have her fighting for their health.”

Dr. Cyrelda Fermin

An advocate of the importance of disease prevention, Dr. Fermin works tirelessly and diligently in keeping children safe from vaccine preventable diseases and parents well informed. Dr. Fermin educates parents about each vaccine needed on the first visit, strongly encouraging them to ask questions, empowering them to understand and actively participate in their child’s care. She speaks three languages; English, Spanish and Pilipino, allowing for ease of communication throughout the community. Dr. Fermin was nominated for her dedication to keeping her community well informed through effective communication.

Donna Dadrick, RN

Considered a “vaccine expert” by her peers, Donna Dadrick works diligently to keep parents, peers and her staff up to date with vaccine information. She actively combats vaccine waste by coordinating transfers from other practices in the area, and opens flu clinics during school holidays and on weekends to increase access to the community. She utilizes a full time Spanish interpreter to effectively communicate with her patients and parents that do not speak English. Donna was nominated for her tireless effort to increase not only her practice’s immunization coverage rates, but to help other practices in the area increase their coverage rates.

All nominees were selected and judged based on leadership, collaboration, innovation and advocacy. For more information on this award, click the link below:

[CDC 2018 Childhood Immunization Champion Award](#)