

Tracker Talk



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PIV's Vaccines 4 Tweens n Teens Logo Contest Makes the Front Page

On September 25, 2006, PIV's new adolescent immunization project made the front page of the Hampton Roads' *Virginian-Pilot* newspaper. The article included information on new adolescent immunization recommendations and highlighted PIV's Vaccines 4 Tweens n Teens logo contest. This article, coupled with the assistance of coalition members in distributing contest information to Virginia's middle and high schoolers, has resulted in 108 total logo entries! PIV members are now tasked with the difficult job of selecting the top three contestants. Winners will be notified by October 9. You can access the *Virginian-Pilot* article at: www.pilotonline.com.

CDC's National Immunization Program Takes on a New Name

In April, the CDC's National Immunization Program (NIP) changed its name to the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD). The mission statement for the newly organized NCIRD is to prevent disease, disability and death through immunization and by control of respiratory and related diseases. NCIRD will be organized into five divisions and will expand the activities of the NIP. These divisions are: Division of Bacterial Diseases, Division of Viral Disases, Global Immunization Division, Immunization Services Division, and Influenza Division. High visibility NIP activities such as the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices and the Vaccines for Children Program are still in place and remain a high priority for NCIRD.

Post Your Flu Clinics Online

The American Lung Association (ALA) has once again provided its very resourceful Flu Clinic Locator online at www.flucliniclocator.org. In addition to these resources, you can also access Virginia-specific information at: www.flushotsvirginia.org. By simply entering a five-digit zip code, you can obtain a list of flu clinics in the surrounding area. With the help of local partners, clinic locations are added and updated daily. This is a great opportunity to post information about your organization's flu clinics! For additional information on how to add your public clinic to ALA's website, you can email flucliniclocator@lungusa.org.

Happy 11th Birthday PIV!



October marks PIV's 11th birthday. Dressed to celebrate, Tracker wants to thank all coalition members for their hard work and dedication to PIV!

Mark Your Calendars for 2007

- PIV Quarterly Meetings – January 19, April 20, July 20, October 12*
- 41st National Immunization Conference – March 5-8, Kansas City, MO
- 9th Virginia Vaccine Update Conference – April 20, Norfolk
- National Infant Immunization Week – April 21-28
- Hepatitis Awareness Month – May
- National Adolescent Immunization Awareness Week – June 3-9
- National Immunization Awareness Month – August
- National Adult Immunization Awareness Week – September 23-29

* Subject to change – check PIV website for latest meeting dates: www.vdh.state.va.us/imm/piv.asp.





PIV's New Email Address

Not sure who in PIV to contact? For general coalition information, requests, or just to say hello, you can now reach us at PIV@evms.edu.

2007 Virginia Vaccine Update Conference

Mark your calendars! The next Virginia Vaccine Update Conference will be held on April 20, 2007 at the Norfolk Sheraton Waterside Hotel. This statewide conference will provide information on practical applications of immunization best practices, new vaccines and recommendations, risk communication, vaccine safety, pandemic influenza planning, strategies for hard to reach populations, and immunization skills and techniques. Physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and other allied health professionals are invited to attend. This statewide conference is hosted by PIV and the Consortium for Infant and Child Health (CINCH) and PIV. Registration will open in December, so be on the lookout for more information. Topics and speakers are as follows:

Welcome: Jim Farrell, Director, Division of Immunization, Virginia Department of Health

Risk Communication: Paul Offit, MD, Chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Immunization Skills and Techniques: Nuts & Bolts: Vicki Roberts, RN, Immunization Action Plan Coordinator, Virginia Beach Department of Health

Back to Basics: Immunization 101: Beth Carroll, RN, Immunization Action Plan Coordinator, Hampton Health Department and Molly Brown, BS, Southeast Region Consultant, Virginia Vaccines for Children

Immunization Q&A: Bill Atkinson, MD, MPH, Medical Epidemiologist, National Immunization Program, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

High Risk Conditions: Pregnancy and HIV: TBA

Pandemic Preparation: David H. Trump, MD, MPH, Director, Peninsula Health District

Vaccines for Travel and Adoption: Doug Mitchell, MD, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Eastern Virginia Medical School

Special Population: Adolescents: TBA

Myth Busters: Bill Berg, MD, MPH, Director, Hampton Health District

Virginia Immunization Information System (VIIS) Update: Archer Redmond, PhD, VIIS & Assessment Director, Division of Immunization, Virginia Department of Health

Vaccine Update: Bill Atkinson, MD, MPH, Medical Epidemiologist, National Immunization Program Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

For conference details or information about continuing education credits, contact PIV at 757-668-6435 or by email: PIV@evms.edu.



Program Spotlight



Fresh Start for the Rappahannock Joint Immunization Council (RJIC)

Article By: Sylvia Newport, Immunization Action Plan Coordinator, Rappahannock Health District

After taking a few years off, the RJIC was re-established in April 2006. The Council has a diverse representation ranging from Giant Pharmacy, Department of Social Services, Medicorp Mobile Health Van, Head Start, school nurses network, and community representatives. The Council is continuing to recruit more members from additional community groups.

The first project developed by the newly-revived RJIC, in collaboration with the Rappahannock Area Health District, was the distribution of posters and flyers to local pharmacies to promote National Immunization Awareness Month in August. These materials contained valuable information about recommended vaccines, proper scheduling, and an area to insert one's own shot record. The materials were printed in both English and Spanish languages.

RJIC and the Rappahannock Area Health District also teamed up and sent in an application to the Mary Washington Hospital Foundation for a grant in the amount of \$30,000. Upon approval, a portion of the monies will help finance a part-time outreach worker to assist the Council with future immunization initiatives including programs to increase immunization rates in daycares and the implementation of a reminder card system used to help increase immunization rates among the elderly and high-risk groups. The card will be filled out this year upon influenza immunization of high-risk individuals and then mailed out the subsequent year. The card will be distributed through local Primary Care Physicians and Health Departments.

It is an exciting time for the Council. We are small in number at the moment, but very busy. For more information please contact Sylvia Newport by email:

Sylvia.Newport@vdh.virginia.gov.

Interested in sharing information about your exciting programs with the rest of Virginia's immunization community?

Submit information to Tracker Talk's quarterly "Program Spotlight" column by contacting Cristi Carlton at: 757-668-6435 or

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