



KIDSNET UPDATE

RHODE ISLAND'S INTEGRATED CHILD HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEM

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Reminder: RICAIR/KIDSNET should not be used to look up staff immunization records

Per the user agreement, KIDSNET/RICAIR should never be used to look up the immunization status of a staff member. This includes COVID-19, flu, and all other vaccines. Use of KIDSNET/RICAIR is limited to care coordination of patients/clients. Any other use not specified in the user agreement is considered a violation of the agreement and could result in revocation of access to KIDSNET/RICAIR or other actions.

New Report Features

KIDSNET reports can be useful in ensuring children have received preventive healthcare and appropriate follow-up. Recent enhancements to reports are:

- Capacity to download the results of KIDSNET reports as a .csv file for use in Excel has been expanded to include the School Eligible, Newborn Hearing Screening, Lead Screening and Seasonal Influenza reports. This allows KIDSNET users with access to KIDSNET reports to download a spreadsheet for use in outreach and follow-up efforts.
- The Immunizations Submitted to KIDSNET By Other Providers report, available to primary care providers, now allows a filter by specific vaccine. For example, the report could be filtered to identify all patients age 12 or older with a record of a COVID-19 or influenza vaccination in KIDSNET so that the provider's electronic health record can be updated. (Note: some electronic health records can do that electronically using "query-response" – contact Jeff Goggin at jeff.goggin@health.ri.gov for more information.)

As always, downloading KIDSNET reports to portable devices such as laptops, tablets or flash drives is prohibited unless the download has been authorized and the portable device is appropriately secured and encrypted.



Calling All Primary Care Providers

On October 14, Governor Dan McKee announced that when Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is approved for ages 5-11, Rhode Island will be ready. The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) needs the help of primary care providers across the state to vaccinate their patients against COVID-19. Of our network of pediatricians and family practices, 81 out of 134 are either onboarded as COVID-19 vaccine providers or in the process of doing so. Contact your Immunization Program Representative or the COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Help Desk at RIDOH.COVIDVaxProviders@health.ri.gov to enroll as a COVID-19 vaccine provider. You can also visit covid.ri.gov/vaxproviders to find enrollment instructions and FAQs.



Use of Proper Coding to Document Historical Vaccination

When adding historical immunization data to your EHR for administrations given elsewhere, please review the record and enter the correct product that was given. It is not best practice to use any code available. If there is a question as to what formulation was administered, please consider using an unspecified code. Most vaccine groups have an unspecified code available to select from in the EHR drop-down menu. Incorrect coding and documentation can have unintended impacts on patient care, such as excess doses of vaccine, missed opportunities for vaccine, or reliance on an improper schedule bringing efficacy into question.

Access to Newborn Screening Records for College-Age Individuals

All babies born in Rhode Island are screened for sickle cell disease unless the parent declines. This newborn screening test also identifies when a baby does not have the disease but does carry one gene for sickle cell. This is known as having sickle cell trait. The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) recommends that athletics departments confirm the sickle cell trait status in all student-athletes because “athletes with sickle cell trait have experienced significant physical distress, including collapse and death, during intense exercise. Heat, dehydration, inadequate acclimatization, altitude, and asthma can increase the risk for medical complications in athletes with sickle cell trait” (<https://www.ncaa.org/sport-science-institute/sickle-cell-trait>). In order to assist college student athletes with confirmation of their newborn screening results, KIDSNET access to newborn screening records for individuals born in Rhode Island has been extended through age 21 for primary care providers. A newborn screening result of All Conditions Normal means the sickle cell trait was not identified in the newborn screening test. A result indicating Hgb trait condition identified would need further information to see if Sickle Cell Trait or some other Hemoglobin Trait was identified. For those patients, please contact Genevieve Smith, Newborn Screening Nurse Follow-up Coordinator. She is located at the VNA of Care New England. Her direct line is **401-921-7619**. You can also contact Emily Eisenstein, RIDOH Newborn Screening Program Manager, at **222-5924**.

