



KIDSNET UPDATE

RHODE ISLAND'S INTEGRATED CHILD HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEM

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Top reasons for missing diagnostic audiology (2017-2021)

Early detection of hearing loss and early intervention is critical for optimal cognitive and language development. Infants are referred for diagnostic testing when they do not pass the newborn hearing screen. Despite significant follow-up efforts by the Rhode Island Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (RIEHDI) team, the reason for lack of audiology services often remains unknown. Of 1,614 babies born in 2017-2021 who were referred for diagnostic audiology testing, 1,066 (66%) received a diagnosis of either permanent hearing loss or normal hearing. The remaining 548 babies did not complete the diagnostic process for various reasons. One infant died, one could not be screened due to medical reasons, and two others were still completing the diagnostic process at the time of data analysis. The four most-common reasons the remaining babies do not have documented audiology results are presented below. These infants will appear on the KIDSNET Newborn Hearing Screening Report. Children with risk factors for late-onset hearing loss also appear on this report, as these children should be monitored closely by an audiologist. Please run the report, assist families in scheduling appropriate follow-up, and share diagnostic results with RIEHDI.

Most Common Reasons for Missing Diagnostic Audiology Data Among Infants Born 2017-2021

Parent/Family contacted but unresponsive	171	31.2%
Unknown	126	23.0%
Non-resident/Moved out of jurisdiction	57	10.4%
Parents/Family declined services	38	6.9%



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2023-2024 Rhode Island School-Located Flu Vaccination Clinics

RIDOH's Office of Immunization, in partnership with The Wellness Company, provide school-located flu vaccine clinics across Rhode Island. School-based flu clinics are an easy, convenient way for students, families, and community members to get vaccinated against the flu at no cost. The higher the number of people vaccinated, the lower the chances of a flu outbreak. Flu vaccination is critical this season to reduce the burden of other respiratory illnesses and hospital admissions on the healthcare system.

Keep students healthy and in school by helping to prevent the spread of flu. Encourage everyone to get a flu vaccine. Run your KIDSNET report to see which of your patients/clients need a flu shot. All are welcome!

There are 220 flu clinics scheduled at public and private schools throughout the state. Most evening clinics are open to community members age three or older. Some school districts will host clinics at each individual school. Other districts choose larger sites to host clinics where all community members can attend. Daytime clinics are available in high schools. These clinics are typically scheduled during the school day to increase participation, and they are limited to students, staff, and faculty.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: schoolflu.com. Walk in registration is limited. Please contact Kathy Marceau at Kathy.Marceau@health.ri.gov if you have any questions.



Immunization Provider Advisory

The Immunization Program sends out provider advisories to provider office staff that includes information regarding immunizations, vaccine roll out, and more. It is very important to read the advisories as they will often answer many of your questions. After reading the advisory, if you or a member of your team have any questions, please reach out to your Immunization Representative. All vaccines administered by your office should be reported to KIDSNET/RICAIR. As always, thank you for your efforts to help keep Rhode Islanders immunized and the KIDSNET/RICAIR registry up to date.

