KIDSNET UPDATE
RHODE ISLAND’S INTEGRATED CHILD HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEM

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MAY / JUNE 2018

MAY - HEARING LOSS AWARENESS MONTH

According to the Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (RICDHH), Hearing Loss Awareness Month, celebrated in May, promotes and recognizes the resources that are available to people who have different levels of hearing. The goal for this awareness is to enhance the quality of life of people who have different levels of hearing through education, technology, and advocacy. RICDHH reports that:

• There are 213,671 people who have hearing loss in at least one ear living in Rhode Island
• One in five people 12 years old and up experiences hearing loss
• One in four college students experiences hearing loss
• 19-44 years old is the leading age group for experiencing hearing loss
• Two in three people over the age of 70 experience significant hearing loss

Infants born in Rhode Island are screened for hearing. Results and recommended follow-up from their Newborn Hearing Screening can be found in KIDSNET, along with any reported results of audiological follow up visits. Infants at risk for late-onset hearing loss also appear on the report. Because of the critical period of brain development in the first months of life, prompt diagnosis and intervention is crucial for optimal brain and language development. Primary care providers, Early Intervention providers, Cedar centers, Family Visiting agencies, and Head Start centers can run the Newborn Hearing Screening Report to identify clients in need of audiological follow up. As of February 2018, of the 306 infants referred to an audiologist for follow-up in 2016, 131 still had no conclusive diagnosis of either normal hearing or a permanent hearing loss reported to the Rhode Island Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program. Reasons for lack of diagnosis include:

• Diagnosis In Progress 30
• Parent Refusal 2
• Unable to Contact 19
• Contacted, no results reported 49
• Moved out of Jurisdiction 14
• Died 1
• Other 16

KIDSNET users with access to the Newborn Hearing Screening Report can run the report and help encourage families to pursue audiological follow-up care.

2018-2019 SSV PROGRAM ENROLLMENT REMINDER

Enrollment in the Rhode Island State-Supplied Vaccine (SSV) Program for 2018-2019 has been open since June 4. Please take the time to update the providers associated with your practice, as well as your designated KIDSNET administrator. If you have any questions about enrollment, contact the Immunization Representative listed in the header of your SSV Practice Menu screen. Continue to check email and electronic newsletters from RIDOH to keep abreast updates concerning SSV.

(continued on reverse)
**NEW FEATURES FOR KIDSNET HL7 ELECTRONIC DATA SUBMISSION PARTNERS**

On January 1, 2018, KIDSNET began support of Query/Response. Query/Response allows external electronic health records to electronically “ask” KIDSNET if there are any immunization data for a specific child, and KIDSNET will respond electronically. KIDSNET now also supports the receipt of National Drug Codes (NDC) for newly-administered vaccinations, provided CVX codes are also included to identify the vaccine. These features are only available to practices fully compliant with HL7 2.5.1 messaging and those that have been consistently submitting historical immunization data transactions. Senders/practices must request Query/Response and have met minimum criteria (including but not limited to the above) prior to accessing this service. Please check with your EHR vendor to verify that your version of their product supports these desired features. To request activation, contact Jeff Goggin at Jeff.Goggin@health.ri.gov.

**OSMOSSIS BLACKOUT AND PEDIATRIC HEPATITIS B VACCINE SUPPLY UPDATE**

**OSMOSSIS Blackout**
OSMOSSIS will be unavailable from 12:00 p.m. June 28 through 9:00 a.m. July 3 for adult vaccine contract updates. Vaccine orders must be submitted prior to noon on June 28 in order to be processed. All incomplete orders, on-hold orders, and orders submitted after the noon deadline will be deleted from the system during the blackout period. The blackout will not affect 2018-2019 State-Supplied Vaccine (SSV) Program enrollment.

**Pediatric Hepatitis B Vaccine Supply**
Pediatric hepatitis B vaccine is currently being allocated by the CDC (not RIDOH) due to manufacturer supply issues. Currently, Rhode Island is receiving allocations of Engerix ® (GSK) and Recombivax HB ® (Merck) to address this issue. Please be aware that your practice may receive either of the two products to fill an order. At this time, RIDOH is prioritizing birthing hospitals for the Hep B birth dose when filling orders. Please refer to the advisory from April 14, 2018 about this issue for further guidance on Hep B vaccine ordering during this time. If you have any questions, please contact Mark Francesconi at Mark.Francesconi@health.ri.gov.

**KIDSNET SECURITY CERTIFICATE UPGRADE**
KIDSNET’s HTTPS (SSL/TLS) security certificate is being upgraded on August 6, 2018. The new certificate will be issued by the DigiCert Certificate Authority instead of the Thawte Certificate Authority. End-users who access KIDSNET with a modern web browser will not be affected by the change. Data sharing partners who connect to KIDSNET via automated processes may be affected.

For desktop or mobile web browsers: Most users do not need to take any action. Modern web browsers all support DigiCert certificates; users who are running up-to-date versions of Chrome, Firefox, or Safari, as well as Internet Explorer version 8 or higher, will be unaffected.

Data sharing partners such as HL7 senders will need to ensure that their HTTPS client software trusts certificates are signed by the “DigiCert Global Root CA”. Most modern client software trusts this certificate authority. If a data sharing partner’s client software is outdated or does not automatically trust this authority, its root certificate can be found at [https://www.digicert.com/digicert-root-certificates.htm](https://www.digicert.com/digicert-root-certificates.htm) and added to the client software. Data sharing partners can test their client software by pointing it to DigiCert’s test site, [https://global-root-ca.chain-demos.digicert.com/](https://global-root-ca.chain-demos.digicert.com/).