Relocation of WIC Program from St. Joseph Health Center

As of October 1, the WIC Program at St. Joseph Health Center that was located at 21 Peace Street in Providence is now located at 500 Broad St. in Providence. This new clinic name – Meeting Street on Broad – is affiliated with the other Meeting Street location on Eddy Street. Participants who were receiving WIC services at St. Joseph’s were notified via mail and text message.

Another Successful CHDA Open House

On November 8, the Rhode Island Department of Health’s (RIDOH) Center for Health Data Analysis (CHDA) held its 11th Annual CHDA Open House. Nearly 120 external partners and RIDOH staff joined us for the event. We hope everyone had a wonderful time learning about the Center through our games, poster, KIDSNET demonstrations, and meeting our staff! Again, we thank all of you for your support and hope you will join us next year!!

Changes to the Immunization Coverage Report

Immunization Quality Improvement for Providers (IQIP) is a new assessment process that replaces AFIX, the Assessment, Feedback, Incentives, and eXchange Program. Under IQIP, age specific reports can be run for 24 to 35-month-old children, as well as 13- and 17-year-old adolescents. The childhood report assesses immunizations as of the child’s second birthday, 13-year-olds are assessed as of their 13th birthday, and 17-year-olds are assessed as of their 17th birthday. Previously, AFIX reports included all adolescents age 13 to 17. The new adolescent IQIP reports focus on timely immunizations only as of the 13th and 17th birthdays.

A coverage assessment history is available for previous AFIX and new IQIP assessments. Previously run reports may be viewed by selecting the desired report. The report content labeled as AFIX will be different from the newer IQIP reports.

Changes to the Patient List Report

Two new selections have been added to the patient list report that mirror the new adolescent coverage report populations:

- Patients in 13-year-old Adolescent Coverage Report (13 years old)
- Patients in 17-year-old Adolescent Coverage Report (17 years old)

The following selection is no longer available:

- Patients 13 through 17-year-old Adolescent Coverage Report

Flu Prevention Efforts This Season

As part of our new Flu Champion Program, Families Fighting Flu (FFF) is working with like-minded organizations and partners to raise awareness about disease burden and the benefits of annual flu vaccination. This season, FFF is piloting a new initiative with RIDOH’s Immunization Program, The Wellness Company, and their 249 statewide school-located flu clinics using educational resources and co-branded educational materials to help increase flu vaccination rates. As part of this pilot program, high school students are encouraged to sport an FFF bracelet and share their #FluShotSelfie. To date, RIDOH and The Wellness Company have seen an increase of 2.5% in flu vaccinations at school-located clinics, including an increase of more than 30% at one clinic! The vaccines administered to all students younger than 19 are reported to KIDSNET and appear in their individual records. To identify those children who were immunized elsewhere, remember to run the “Immunizations Submitted to KIDSNET By Other Providers” report in KIDSNET. Providers can also run their Seasonal Flu reports in KIDSNET to identify patients linked to their practice who have not received their flu vaccine for this season.

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2019 Accomplishments and Activities

Please join KIDSNET in celebrating the following accomplishments for 2019:

Improvements to existing reports and features:

• Patient List Report column headers now freeze if users scroll down a list of children.
• Improvements to the search page include:
  o Extra spaces no longer impact search
  o When search results with multiple children are sorted by clicking on the column headers, such as name or date of birth, the columns retain search order after opening a new window
• Password change page was modified in response to user feedback on new password requirements.
• Infants with no reported immunizations are attached to practices based on the intended PCP reported at birth until the infant is six months of age so they appear on reports and patient lists.
• A Spanish version of the Permission to Share with KIDSNET form, the lists of audiologists who see children in Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Connecticut, and the Guidelines for the Newborn Hearing Screening Follow-up Report were added to the Forms and Resources page.

Immunization Registry:
• Legislation authorizing the Immunization Registry to include adults was signed into law in July 2019.
• New and improved immunization assessments for the IQIP were made available to primary care providers, including new reports for 13-year-olds and 17-year-olds.
• State Supplied Vaccine (SSV) enrollment and vaccine ordering was enhanced for the 2020 enrollment year and included training requirements for practices.
• Bi-directional Query-Response (electronic health records electronically “ask” KIDSNET if there are any immunization data for a specific child) was improved to return forecasts for all vaccine groups even if a series is complete.

Other Maternal Child Health Programs:
• Nurse Family Partnership enrollment data from the family visiting database were added to KIDSNET.
• The following improvements were made to the Family Visiting data collection and web page:
  o The Agency listed in the Summary section will now be listed as the current agency where the child is being seen.
  o In the Summary section, the Child’s Home Visit Status is now automatically generated from data that is stored in the system.
  o The most recent referral date, most recent discharge date, and number of First Connections visits are viewable. If two visits are completed on one day, it is counted as one total visit.
• Began integration of newborn hearing screening database into KIDSNET.
• Improvements were made to the diagnostic audiology reporting on the Hearing Assessment Page.

Collaborations and Partnerships
• Continued collaboration with the Care Transformation Collaborative/Patient Centered Medical Home Kids initiative on care coordination of high-risk children and patient risk profile reports.
• More than 400 new KIDSNET users were added, including users from provider offices, schools, child care centers, Head Start programs, and other authorized user groups.
• Query/Response improved to return forecasts for all vaccine groups, even if a series is complete.
• Participated in interagency data projects of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) Data Ecosystem team on factors contributing to medication assisted treatment for opioid use disorder, dental services during pregnancy, and characterizing the RI Works participants.
• Address update project for Rhode Island Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring Survey.
• Participating in the National Immunization Survey – Immunization Information System Match Study with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
• Participated on advisory committee and data workgroup of the Environmental Public Health Tracking Network.
• Participated in WIC Lead Pilot Project to expand access to display of lead screening status indicating if the WIC pilot site should conduct on-site screening at a second WIC site (Woonsocket).
• Provided data for the annual RI Kids Count Fact Book.
• Provided data for several Institutional Review Board approved academic research projects including research on the impact of HPV school regulations on HPV immunization with the University of North Texas Health Science Center.

Training and Presentations
• Provided and staffed an information table at the Care Transformation Collaborative Annual Meeting.
• Published six issues of KIDSNET Update newsletter.
• KIDSNET demonstrations at the 11th Annual Center for Health Data and Analysis open house.
• Presented at several events, including:
  o American Immunization Registry Association National Conference
  o Northeast Epidemiology Conference
  o American Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP) Conference
  o National Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Annual Meeting
  o Minnesota Early Childhood Data Working Group Meeting

Technical Improvements
• A database was created for KIDSNET training.
• KIDSNET underwent a database upgrade to Oracle 12.2.