

Childhood Immunization Action Coalition

Minutes – April 28, 2005, 12:30-2:30

Warwick Public Library

Present: Maria Chionchio, Children's Friend and Services; Susan Farrell, Children's Friend and Service; Pam Hall, DCYF; Kathy Marceau, DOH; Gail Whitfield, Thundermist Health Center; Maureen Lund, Blue Cross; Danielle Denis, Neighborhood Health; Randall Linn, The Wellness Company; Bonnie Braga, Lifespan Community Health; Paul Madrazo, GlaxoSmithKline; Sherry Schilb, SanofiPasteur; Peter Howland, BVCHC; Virginia Paine, Woonsocket Head Start; Heidi Wallace, DOH; Annemarie Beardsworth, DOH

1. Updates from DOH

- Vaccine: New meningitis conjugate vaccine will be available in about one month. Primary targets for this vaccine are students entering college, 9th graders and 7th graders. It is expected that a new pertussis booster vaccine will be licensed by the FDA in a couple of months and hopefully be available to VFC providers by the end of the summer. It is expected that the recommendation will be that the new pertussis vaccine will take the place of Td and can be given with the meningitis vaccine at the 7th grade physical. Any questions regarding vaccines should be directed to Pat Raymond, 222-5921.**
- Regulations: There will be a public hearing on May 19 for the proposed changes in regulations. Proposed changes include:
 - ü Requiring Prevnar for daycare entry.****

ü Requiring varicella (chicken pox) and hepatitis B series for college student, effective 2006. (These vaccines are already required for health science majors.)

ü Requiring schools to develop a policy regarding exclusions during a disease outbreak.

There are now separate forms for medical and for religious exemptions. For exemption forms or to obtain printed guidelines for exemptions, call the Family Health Information Line at 1-800-942-7434.

· **Educational Materials:** The Immunization Program is in the process of updating/revising/evaluating educational materials. Please provide feedback to Annemarie Beardsworth at 222-5658.

· **Assessments:** Currently, assessments are being done in kindergarten, grades 7 and 12 and in day care. At each assessment, 25 random records are selected for review.

· **Other:** Summer catch up clinics fro VBYG are scheduled for Wednesday, July 13, 8am-6pm at the Warwick Mall and Wednesday, August 10, 8:30am-4pm at the Department of Health in Providence. For information, contact Kathy Marceau at 222-4624.

2. Guest Speaker

Dr. Penelope Dennehy, Director of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Hasbro Children's Hospital , presented on the new meningococcal conjugate vaccine (Menactra).

Next Meeting: Thursday, July 21, 11:30-1, Warwick Public Library