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The Results Are In!

Florida SHOTS conducted a statewide online survey from mid-January to February 29, 2008. We asked a private research company to conduct the survey of all immunization providers, whether they currently use the registry or not. The input of immunization providers and their perceptions of the features and benefits of Florida SHOTS is very important to us as we continually work to refine the system.

Everyone who completed the survey was entered in a drawing for a \$250 American Express gift certificate. Congratulations to Aida Rodriguez of My Children's Doctor in Port Charlotte who was the lucky winner! When notified, she had this to say about Florida SHOTS: "I really like it a lot! It makes my job easier. Every time I have a new patient, I look for them in Florida SHOTS." Thanks, Aida, and thank you all for taking the time to participate in the survey! You've given us some great insights into the system.

Here are some of the highlights from the survey.

Benefits/Incentives to Participation in Florida SHOTS

Offices were asked about the level of importance of certain benefits/incentives to participation in Florida SHOTS. We added the "very important" and "important" rankings to determine the following top five benefits:

1. Immediate access to a child's immunization status—96%
2. Access to computer-generated reports of a child's immunization history and status accepted by schools, day care, camps, etc., as valid document—94%
3. School access to electronically certified 680s—88%
4. Toll-free assistance help line—87%
5. Time/cost savings of printing computer-generated standardized immunization records vs. manual record pulling and hand writing

See I-TRENDS page 2

These software companies have created data exchange capabilities between Florida SHOTS and their EMR, practice management, or billing software. We appreciate their partnership!



Florida Shots™
CERTIFIED PROVIDER

- Athena Health
- Automated Medical Systems
- AutoMedicWorks
- bond Clinician
- CollaborateMD/Claimgear
- Doc-tor.com
- eClinicalWorks
- Electronic Healthcare Systems (EHS)
- e-MDS
- EncounterPro (JMJ Technologies)
- Medappz
- MediTab
- Misys
- NCG Medical (Perfect Care)
- NextGen
- Office Practicum
- Practice Partner—McKesson
- SynaMed
- TriMed Technologies (Expert Practice Manager)
- VacTrack
- VipaHealth Solutions (SmartEMR)
- Visionary
- Allscripts*
- Amazing Charts*
- Doctors Access*
- EMRgence*
- GE Medical*
- Greenway Medical Technologies*
- Medicat*
- medisoft*
- Sage*
- Sevocity*
- Workflow*

*in development

For more information about how you can participate, please call the Florida SHOTS enrollment desk at

(877) 888-SHOT

Bin A-11, 4052 Bald Cypress Way
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1719
FAX (850) 922-4195
E-MAIL flshots@DOH.state.fl.us
www.flshots.com



Bureau of
Immunization

I-TRENDS from page 1

immunizations on each shot record card—86%

Florida SHOTS Features and Their Level of Importance

Participants were asked to rate 16 Florida SHOTS features and that feature's level of importance to their office. We added the "very important" and "important" rankings to determine the following top 5 features:

1. Ease of access—98%
2. Ability to print automated DH 680 (Blue Form)—96%
3. Immunization status screen—95%
4. Ease of entering data—93%
5. System-certified DH 680 (Blue Form)—92%

Implementation and Utilization

Entering Data: Nurses continue to be the most common position responsible for inputting information in Florida SHOTS (41% of responses). Other positions responsible for inputting data are office managers (8%); administrative staff (7%); or other staff or a combination of nurses, administrative staff, and office managers (36%).

Registry Usage: Forty-five percent of respondents indicated they enter immunizations daily into the registry. Another 16% enter data at least once a week and 13% at least once per month. Fifteen percent don't input information in the system but only view what is already there.

Those who use the registry daily or once a week were asked to list the biggest benefits of

regularly entering shots in the registry. There were 201 responses given which included:

- Having clear dates for vaccinations and the follow-ups. The 680 forms are done faster... We are able to find relevant history and information on new patients. We are able to find out if there are contraindications clearly in the history of new patients.
- Able to print blue forms as needed and decrease the number of calls from health department because immunizations are available for lookup.
- Accuracy: One of my main concerns is that children are given vaccines unnecessarily due to lack of records. Not only is this painful for the children but also becomes an added expense to insurance companies and families paying for duplicate vaccines.
- Any Florida SHOTS provider in the state can access the information and would not need to wait for a shot record to be mailed or faxed before treating a new patient in their office.
- Being prepared for school season.
- Blue forms can be printed within minutes of request.
- Complete data and use of the algorithm so we do not miss the correct schedule.
- Continuity of care. Less risk of transcription errors. Time saver in that you only have to enter vaccines once and can print multiple blue forms.
- Ease: Ease of entry. Ease of data reporting. Printing out of immunization records. Ease of data acquisition on new patients or patients with incomplete data in our records.

You Said It

It's always nice to know what others who are enrolled in Florida SHOTS have to say about the program. So each issue we'll share with you what some of our top users think about the registry. This feature interview was conducted with Paula Kendall, Office Manager, The Franz Center, in Orlando.

If another doctor's office were to call and ask you why they should enroll in the registry, what would you say?

Enroll because of the convenience of having Florida SHOTS. I advertise it all the time. In addition to printing the blue forms, the registry tracks vaccination status, adverse events and contraindications.

What do you think is the best feature of the registry for your office?

The convenience. You can just pull up the shot records; so many patients transfer here, and 50% of the time, their shot records are in Florida SHOTS from another office. And printing blue forms is so much easier than having a nurse write out every shot. I just think it's wonderful.

What do you think is the best feature of the registry for your patients?

We have an accurate record in one place. All those shots are in one spot. A lot of parents do not know which shot is needed next, but "immunization status" provides that too.

Did You Know?

Two doses of the Varicella vaccine are required for entry into kindergarten this year (2008/2009 school term). Although patients who are not in this age bracket are not required to have two doses, two doses are recommended for everyone else who has not had the disease. (See <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/varicella/in-short-adult.htm#who> for additional information on the CDC's recommendation.)

Tech Tips

Q: I've noticed that the 680 form options have changed on Florida SHOTS. There is now a Part A (K-12 excluding 7th grade) and a Part A (7th Grade Requirements). The two forms look identical to me. What is the difference?

A: The different Part A options ensure that the correct Department of Education (DOE) code (or codes if selecting both) will appear in the "Part A" section on the printed 680 form. Selecting "K-12 excluding 7th grade" (DOE Code 1) means the patient has all required immunizations except for the Tetanus booster for 7th grade. Selecting "7th grade only" (DOE Code 8) means the patient is compliant with the required Tetanus booster for entry into 7th grade. If a patient is new to Florida and entering 7th grade or higher, both selections can be made if all requirements are met.



The Florida Department of Health Bureau of Immunization
Bin A-11, 4052 Bald Cypress Way
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1719

Welcome Aboard!

We here at Florida SHOTS would like to wish a warm welcome to all of the new practices that have recently enrolled. In this issue we are highlighting another long-term member of Florida SHOTS who is a new e-MDs data upload participant. Susan Carson, Office Administrator at Carson Family Care Center, in Tarpon Springs, recently shared with us about her experience with data upload.

“We had heard about Florida SHOTS for a long time, but we were concerned about the time it would take to enter records. We met Diane McLeod, Florida SHOTS Technical Field Rep, at a conference, and she told us about data upload. We were the first e-MDs office in the nation to get data upload, and Diane really pursued it on our behalf. If data upload had been a hassle, I would have thought twice, but Florida SHOTS was really our advocate to the vendor.

Shot records are so critical for children and adults. We want other providers to have access to those records in a timely, accurate manner. Data upload is very quick—two seconds to send the files. The whole concept of Florida SHOTS makes sense.”



BACK ROW Left to Right: Geneva Palaidis, ARNP; Thomas E. Carson, M.D.; Craig W. Burns, D.O. **FRONT ROW** Left to Right: Nancy Klibanoff, ARNP; Elizabeth Handte, ARNP

e-MDs Users:

If your office uses e-MDs software, you can implement data upload. Here's how:

1. Contact e-MDs Regional Sales Manager, Stephanie Aten at 512-638-6968 to receive the Florida SHOTS immunization bridge.
2. Contact Holly Graff at 904-755-5167, and she will help you complete the form to receive a secure ftp site from Florida SHOTS.
3. Holly can then schedule an appointment with your office to show a staff member how to easily upload a file.

Immunization data can be uploaded to Florida SHOTS daily, weekly, bi-weekly or monthly, whichever you choose.

Top 10 Spotlight

We'd like to commend the following practices for hitting our "Top 10 by Daily Usage" chart as of June 6, 2008. Thank you for your support of the registry!

Traditional Partners:

1. Pediatric Professional Associates: Miami
2. Medical Surgical Specialists: Naples
3. Carithers Pediatric Group: Jacksonville
4. Lakeside Pediatrics: Lakeland
5. Family Health Centers of Southwest Florida: Ft. Myers

Upload Partners:

1. Pediatric Associates PA: Lauderdale Lakes
2. Clark & Daughtrey Medical Group, PA: Lakeland
3. Florida Health Care Plans: Holly Hill
4. All About Kids Pediatrics: Orlando
5. Children's Medical Center III: Hollywood

- YES, please contact me to schedule a visit with a regional coordinator to enroll in Florida SHOTS.
- Sign me up for electronic copies of *SHOTS Tracker*.

EMAIL 1: _____

EMAIL 2: _____

CONTACT NAME: _____

OFFICE NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

COUNTY: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

EMAIL: _____

NL:V4:I3

How Do I Enroll in Florida SHOTS?

SIGN UP TODAY!

Fill out this information card and mail it back to us. Please include proper postage.

Call **(877) 888-SHOT**, or send an email to the help desk at flshots@doh.state.fl.us if you need more information.

So many enrollment options... and they're all FREE!



The Florida Department of Health Bureau of Immunization
Bin A-11, 4052 Bald Cypress Way
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1719



Now Available Online:

Easy Enrollment Form
www.flshots.com

Upload Update

13 M

Over thirteen million and counting... That's how many shot records have been added to the registry via data upload, a process that exports immunization information from current electronic files and transfers it for import into the Florida SHOTS registry.

Interested in learning

more about how your practice management or EMR software could be set up to upload shot data to the registry? Check out page 1 of the newsletter to see which software companies are currently participating, or call 877-888-SHOT for more information.