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# Boosting Immunization Saturation Measures

## Data Upload Makes More Records Available to Doctors Statewide

Florida SHOTS, the statewide immunization registry, began actively recruiting private health-care provider participation in the fall of 2004. Data upload—a process that exports immunization information from current electronic files and transfers it for import into the Florida SHOTS registry—was piloted in 2006. By that summer, we began actively recruiting medical software companies to partner with us to create these linkages from their practice management, billing, and electronic medical records software. Those development efforts were so successful that last fall, we added Holly Graff, Florida SHOTS Implementation Specialist, to our field support team to assist health-care providers who wanted to start using data upload in their offices. The results of these efforts have been phenomenal.

This summer, we topped 100 uploading offices or corporate groups. These providers are using one of 28 different software packages or have programmed an in-house solution to export the information from their current databases. Several more software companies have linkages in development. (See the list below of software companies that are participating Florida SHOTS certified providers.)

Why does this matter if you're not currently a data uploader? In short, the more people who are uploading, the more shots that are in the registry. Data upload allows thousands of historical records to be entered at the press of a button, so we've hit record numbers of children with shots recorded in the registry. This makes it increasingly likely that your office will find the records you're looking for when new

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

- Allscripts
- Athena Health
- Automated Medical Systems
- AutoMedicWorks
- CollaborateMD/Claimgear
- Doc-tor.com
- eClinicalWorks
- Electronic Healthcare Systems (EHS)
- e-MDs
- EncounterPRO (JMJ Technologies)
- Medappz
- Medicat
- MediTab
- Misys
- NCG Medical (Perfect Care)
- NextGen
- Office Practicum
- Practice Partner—McKesson
- Sage
- Sevocity
- SynaMed
- TriMed Technologies (Expert Practice Manager)
- VacTrack
- VipaHealth Solutions (SmartEMR)
- Visionary
- Amazing Charts\*
- Doctors Access\*
- edgeMED\*
- EMRgence\*
- GE Medical\*
- Greenway Medical Technologies\*
- i2i Systems\*
- IOS Solutions\*
- MDFlow\*
- MediNotes/Clinician (formerly bond Clinician)
- medisoft\*
- Pulse Systems\*
- 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

patients come for immunization appointments. There is also greater likelihood that you will find a consolidated immunization record where only fragmented records existed previously. The ability to consolidate fragmented immunization records is a specialty of immunization registries and a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) functional requirement. The result: fewer phone calls to previous doctors and the county health department to track shot records, fewer missed opportunities to immunize, and increased time savings since more records are complete and 680s are easily printed from the system.

### Case in Point

“Saturation measure” is the term used to describe the percentage of children in certain age ranges that are current or complete for various vaccines or vaccine series. If, for example, we looked at 5,000 kids in a particular age group and found that 4,000 of them had two or more valid doses in the registry, our result for that measure would be 80%. The CDC has set a Healthy People 2010 goal of having 95% of the children ages 0 to 2 years with at least two doses in a computerized registry.

As of 2005, Florida had attained a 51% saturation measure. After data upload was introduced in 2006, the measure increased to 65%. Since the widespread rollout of data upload beginning in the fall of 2007, that measurement has hit 89%. We estimate that we've been gaining about 2 to 2 1/2 percentage points per million shots uploaded. Because of the impact

of data upload, we're estimating that sometime early 2009, we should reach 95% of children ages 0 to 2 years with two or more doses in the registry, well ahead of the 2010 goal.

### Safeguarding Shot Records

Hurricane season in Florida continually reminds us of the importance of safeguarding children's shot records in the registry. When your office takes the time to enter those records in our secure, Web-based, centralized system, you help ensure that your patients' records will remain available to them no matter where, no matter what. It will also help protect patients from unnecessary duplicate immunizations, missed vaccination opportunities, and receiving immunizations at incorrect dosing intervals.

We appreciate all you are doing to make sure shot records are safeguarded in Florida SHOTS. If you are not yet participating in data upload and your software company offers a linkage, please consider it. If you've not been able to get your software company to develop the linkage but you'd really like them to, let us know. We have a postcard that can be filled out with your office name and contact information and mailed directly to your software provider to tell them you need their help with data upload. *You can call 877-888-SHOT to request one of these postcards be sent on your behalf. If you're not sure whether a linkage is available for your particular type of software, contact Holly Graff at 904-755-5167 or [Holly\\_Graff@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Holly_Graff@doh.state.fl.us), and she will assist you.*

## 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 Jackie Largel, Front Office Supervisor, Bayside Pediatrics, Inc., in Tampa.

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

Convenience. The fact that we can see a child's immunization history from other doctors is very convenient. Most new patients coming in for shots do not have their shot histories with them. If they are in Florida SHOTS we can easily check their immunization history and they do not have to go back to their previous doctor's office for their immunization record.

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

With Florida SHOTS our patients' records are available to other providers. So they can go anywhere for shots if they need something that we are out of and they do not have to keep up with paper copies of blue forms.

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

Florida SHOTS is a great tool to keep patient records up to date. It enables all health-care providers to be on the same page. If a child's immunizations are not up to date, it tells you what shots they need and when they should have had them. I like it a lot.

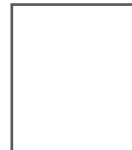
## Did You Know?

There are currently more than 478,000 certified 680s in Florida SHOTS. If you certify your shot records before you press print, it will save your office time when a parent or school needs an additional copy of the record. Additionally, authorized schools and day care centers will be able to look up and print the certified record for themselves without having to contact your office for a copy.

## Tech Tips

**Q:** I am the administrator for our office's Florida SHOTS account. Is it better for me to have one user name and password for the whole office, or should I set up separate user accounts for each person who will be accessing Florida SHOTS?

**A:** Because of security concerns and confidentiality requirements you must set up a separate user account for each individual using your Florida SHOTS account. This will benefit you in a couple of ways. Firstly, each person will be able to set their own password, so they will be better able to keep track of what the password is. Additionally, if an employee leaves or is terminated, you can shut down their individual login so that they are no longer able to access the account, and no other users in the office will be impacted by the change. While you're logged into Florida SHOTS, you can add individual user accounts in the "Personnel List" section of the "Administration" menu.



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

## Welcome Aboard!



Left to Right: Kathryn Boreman, M.D., Karen Kelly, M.D., Kimberly Odom, M.D., Greg Savel, M.D.

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 Mysis data upload participant. Steve Kelly, IT Manager at Myrtle Avenue Pediatrics in Clearwater, recently shared with us about his experience with data upload.

“Holly Graff, Florida SHOTS Implementation Specialist, contacted us about data upload. Holly

was very helpful and knew how to incorporate data upload with our software program, Mysis, making implementation very easy. Holly came out to our office to ensure everything went smoothly and to walk us through the transition.

Since beginning with data upload two weeks ago we have already noticed an elimination of errors in our records and a large time savings since we no longer have to manually enter charts at the end of the day.”

### Misys Software Users:

If your office uses Misys Tiger PM or Misys EMR software, you can implement data upload. Here's how:

1. Find out if you have Misys Query (a reporting program from Misys).
  - If you have Misys Query, call Misys support at 1-800-877-5678, ask for DSS (Misys Query Support), and request an upgrade to version 8.10. Misys will mail a CD with the 8.10 query upgrade. After you receive the CD, call the 800 number again and ask for DSS (Misys Query Support) for installation help.

- If you do not have Misys Query, call the 800 number and inquire with support about how to obtain Misys Query.
2. Contact Holly Graff, Florida SHOTS Implementation Specialist at 904-755-5167 or [Holly\\_Graff@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Holly_Graff@doh.state.fl.us) in order to complete the forms 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.

## Top 10 Spotlight

We'd like to commend the following practices for hitting our “Top 10 by Daily Usage” chart as of September 5, 2008. Thank you for your support of the registry!

### Traditional Partners:

1. Pediatric Professional Associates: Miami
2. Mayport Branch Health Clinic: Jacksonville
3. Lakeside Pediatrics: Lakeland
4. Family Health Centers of Southwest Florida: Ft. Myers
5. Carithers Pediatric Group: Jacksonville

### Upload Partners:

1. Minute Clinic: Locations Statewide
2. Physician Associates of Florida: Longwood
3. Pediatric Associates PA: Lauderdale Lakes
4. Watson Clinic, LLP: Lakeland
5. Memorial Healthcare System: Hallandale

- 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:I5

## 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](mailto: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  
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Now Available Online:

**Easy Enrollment Form**  
[www.flshots.com](http://www.flshots.com)

## Upload Update

18.25  
MILLION

**More than 18.25 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.