The County of San Diego Immunization Branch (SDIB) provides programs and interventions focused on reducing vaccine-preventable disease for the county’s children, adolescents, and adults to meet the national Healthy People 2010 goals for immunizations.

**Clinical Services**

**Barrier-Free Immunization Services**
Barrier-free immunizations are available at more than 50 public clinic sites throughout the county. These include 7 Public Health Centers and 43 Community Health Center clinics which offer vaccine to low-income/uninsured children.
**Contact: Immunization Branch (619) 692-8661**

**Immunization Shots Line**
Available during business hours, the Shots Line is staffed by a bilingual nurse who can help callers check immunization records over the telephone. The nurse also makes referrals for infants and toddlers for free immunization services throughout the county.
**Contact: The Shots Line (888) 692-2575**

**Influenza Vaccine Distribution**
SDIB receives and distributes State purchased Influenza vaccine to local clinics, schools, colleges, skilled nursing facilities or other selected agencies for distribution to their at risk patients. SDIB monitors the distribution and accounts for each dose distributed.
**Contact: Clinical Coordinator (619) 692-5607**

**Medical Assistants Immunization Training (ISI Immunization Skills Institute)**
Medical Assistant training on immunization is offered quarterly, using the California DHS Immunization Skills Institute model. Hands-on training is provided on storage and handling and administration of vaccines. Demonstrations on how to use the San Diego Regional Immunization Registry are also provided as well as information on how to sign up to become a user.
**Contact: Clinical Coordinator (619) 692-5607**

**Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program**
SDIB provides case management for pregnant women who test positive for Hepatitis B, including follow-up on infants and susceptible household contacts. Information and education is provided to medical providers and the general public, and the Public Health Nurses act as liaison with laboratory personnel, health professionals and appropriate hospital staff.
**Contact: Perinatal Hepatitis B Program (619) 692-5607**

**Vaccine-Preventable Disease (VPD) Surveillance and Case Investigation**
SDIB conducts passive surveillance for vaccine-preventable diseases by reviewing data submitted from medical providers, infection control nurses, hospital and reference laboratories, and schools. Suspect and confirmed VPD cases are investigated and appropriate control measures are instituted to protect contacts.
**Contact: Clinical Coordinator (619) 692-5607**

**Community Education and Training**

**Health Education and Community Support**
Health Education staff participate in local efforts to promote immunizations for all ages, and work with government and community-based agencies, encouraging them to include immunization education intervention and record assessment part of their regular client services. Training and materials are provided at no cost to a wide range of organizations, including schools, child care providers, social services agencies, refugee service organizations,
migrant education programs, teen pregnancy programs, hospitals, and civic organizations. Health Education staff are also available to conduct immunization presentations in English and Spanish.

Contact: Community Health Education Manager (619) 692-8247

Compliance with California School Immunization Law Training and Technical Assistance
Training on the California School Immunization Law requirements is offered for all San Diego County public and private schools, child care centers and family childcare providers who are required to check the immunization records of children in their care as part of the law. Assessment of immunization coverage and mandated reporting are part of this program. Technical assistance is available by phone to address questionable shot records or other concerns. Bilingual immunization materials, resources and bilingual support is also available.

Contact: School & Child Care Coordinator (619) 692-8805; Family/Home Day Care Coordinator (619) 692-5599

Immunization Materials
The SDIB offers a variety of FREE Immunization Education Materials brochures, posters, and flyers for the general public, schools, providers, and other settings. You can view the materials and place your order online at www.sdiz.org or by calling (619) 692-8661.

Evaluation

Evaluation and Community Assessment
Immunization Branch staff conduct immunization coverage level audits for public and private providers and for the community using various immunization assessment methods. These include the Random Digit Dialing and Kindergarten Retrospective Surveys. Outcomes, strategies and activities implemented by the San Diego Immunization Coalition are evaluated for effectiveness. Data from a variety of sources help to determine program direction. SDIB performs an annual random digit dialing phone survey to assess immunization coverage for various age cohorts in San Diego County. The Branch also participates in the annual Kindergarten Retrospective Survey to estimate statewide immunization coverage rates of kindergarten children at 2 years of age. To obtain a more reliable measure specific to coverage rates in San Diego County, SDIB also completes an expanded analysis annually. Additional activities include CoCASA audits of various provider sites, Quality Assurance Reviews of public clinics, and other data collection and analysis.

Contact: Evaluation Manager (619) 692-5683

Provider Services

Medical Resident Education
The Immunization Rotation is for residents in pediatrics, family practice, and internal residency programs of UCSD, U.S. Naval Medical Center, and Scripps. This curriculum emphasizes the principles of appropriate immunization practice, avoidance of missed opportunities to immunize, knowledge of appropriate contraindications to immunizations, and provision of all immunizations for which a patient is due at a single visit. The immunization curriculum features indoctrination of appropriate practice patterns early in training and overcoming patient and parent perceptions about what constitutes appropriate care.

Contact: Resident Rotation Coordinator (619) 692-8379

Immunization Management Consultancy / Provider Quality Assurance
The Immunization Management Consultancy (IMC) offers an in-office immunization management consultation program to San Diego County private medical care providers. Services include chart assessments, data analysis and a tailored in-service educational presentation that targets strategies, including the San Diego Regional Immunization Registry, to improve coverage rates for that practice. Services are free of charge and are conducted in the medical office. The Immunization Branch also sponsors and facilitates all Centers for Disease Control and Prevention satellite training courses on immunization. CME/CEU credits are offered to medical care professionals for these courses.

Contact: Immunization Management Consultant (619) 692-8601
San Diego Hospital Immunization Partnership (SD-HIP)
This project is a collaboration comprised of local area hospitals, UCSD and SDIB. The project was initially funded by a 2-year grant from the CDC to study promotion of influenza among the healthcare workers of the participating hospitals. The project has expanded to include Tdap promotion, development of effective tracking systems and has expanded to include skilled nursing facilities or other practice locations with a continued focus on healthcare workers.
Contact: Project Coordinator (619) 692-6644

Special Projects

San Diego Influenza Coverage Enhancement (SD – ICE)
SD-ICE, is a two-year, CDC-funded Cooperative Agreement to work in collaboration with local pediatricians, family physicians and local medical practices to extend the influenza vaccination season, using evidence-based interventions. The study will evaluate the feasibility and costs associated with an extended influenza season.
Contact: Program Coordinator (619) 692-8601

Impact of New Adolescent Vaccines on the Delivery of Recommended Clinical Preventive Services in San Diego
This CDC-funded Cooperative Agreement will evaluate the impact of new adolescent vaccines on the delivery of recommended clinical preventative services in primary care sites across San Diego County. The study will investigate the relationship between the immunization of adolescents and the delivery of other preventive services among adolescents 11-18 years of age. Immunization- and CPS-related attitudes of parents and teens and prioritization among physicians who care for adolescents will be evaluated, and the relationships between the delivery of each type of service will be assessed. The results from these investigations will facilitate the planning of strategies to enhance the delivery of immunizations to adolescent populations.
Contact: Program Coordinator (619) 692-8601

Registry

California Immunization Registry /San Diego Regional Immunization Registry (CAIR/SDIR)
CAIR/SDIR is an internet-based immunization information system (IIS) that enables medical providers and other authorized users enter and share an individual’s immunization information. The Registry calculates based on the vaccines a person as received, what immunizations are needed according to the recommended schedule. Providers then enter any new immunization data and provide an up-to-date record to the person. In addition, the registry is an effective tool for providers to manage their vaccine inventory and, produce reminder and recall mailings to patients/parents, and reports for quality assurance and improvement. Individuals residing in San Diego County can send their immunization records to the registry to have the information entered in the database. They then can access their record online when needed.
Contact: Registry Manager (619) 692-8403

CalWORKS Immunization Intervention
This project seeks to increase the immunization coverage level of children receiving assistance through CalWORKs, MediCal, Food Stamps and other social services programs by checking immunization records and notifying parents of deficiencies. CalWORKs staffs assess immunization records through the San Diego Regional Immunization Registry (SDIR) or is itCAIR?. Parents are requested to bring their children’s immunization records to intake and renewal appointments for review at all Health and Human Services Agency Family Resource Centers.
Contact: Registry Services Manager (619) 542-4190

WIC Immunization Linkage
The WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Immunization Project works in collaboration with the five WIC agencies in the county to conduct immunization record assessment, education and referral for WIC clients under the age of two. The child’s immunization record is assessed at each visit to determine up-to-date status, establish the next due date for shots and refer the parent to a provider, if appropriate. WIC agencies use the CAIR/SDIR to assess and update
Private/Public Partnership

Community Involvement: The San Diego Immunization Coalition (SDIC)
The San Diego County Immunization Coalition is a partnership with approximately 150 organizations working collaboratively to reduce vaccine-preventable diseases by raising immunization coverage for county children, adolescents and adults. Members participate by attending quarterly SDIC General Meetings, taking part in committee workgroups, and incorporating and implementing successful immunization activities into their organizations. Examples of partner activities include conducting special events to promote the importance of vaccines, promoting the use of the immunization registry, educating patients, staff or customers about immunizations and distributing educational materials. Find out more about the SDIC by visiting www.sdiz.org.

Contact: Coalition Coordinator (619) 692-8247

Please visit our website at www.sdiz.org!