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IMMUNIZATION REGISTRY LOGS 30 MILLION VACCINATION HISTORIES

Registry saves time and money while reducing unnecessary shots

COLUMBUS – Ohio’s immunization registry, Impact Statewide Immunization Information System (ImpactSIIS), recently logged its 30 millionth unique immunization history.

The record was filed by the Lakewood City Health Department and marks a milestone for the 6-year-old ImpactSIIS immunization registry, Ohio’s secure, Web-based immunization information system housed at the Ohio Department of Health (ODH).

“This is good news for Ohio’s children, their parents and their physicians,” said ODH Director Alvin D. Jackson, M.D. “Providers who use the registry have immunization rates 15 to 20 percent higher than other providers.”

Each of the approximately 150,000 babies born in Ohio every year requires nearly 30 doses of vaccine by age 6 to protect them from 14 serious, but preventable, diseases. Having a centralized immunization information system allows providers to ensure timely vaccinations and cuts down on unnecessary shots. This is especially important as one in five U.S children receives at least one unneeded vaccination.

And because 22 percent of all U.S. children have seen at least two health care providers by age 2, the registry makes it easier for parents to keep current on their children’s immunization status. When an Ohioan needs an immunization record for day care, school entry, college or work, participating physicians can quickly print a copy of the necessary record.

The registry also captures important information on the federal Vaccines for Children program, helps manage vaccine inventory and allows providers to give reminders and recalls to patients.

“I encourage all providers to participate in ImpactSIIS,” Jackson said. “It is another important tool to use as we work to protect and improve the health of all Ohioans.”

ImpactSIIS is on the Web at: <http://www.impactsiiis.org>.

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