Increasing Provider Participation in the Illinois Immunization Registry through Education and Outreach

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Illinois Immunization Registry: I-CARE

• What is I-CARE?
  – Illinois Comprehensive Automated Immunization Registry Exchange
  – Illinois’ immunization registry

• What are Immunization Registries?
  – Centralized information systems designed to consolidate immunization information into one reliable source
  – Web-based computer immunization information system
Utilizing Partnerships

- Illinois Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
- Illinois Department of Public Health
- Chicago Department of Public Health
- Chicago Area Immunization Campaign (Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition)
- Pharmaceutical Company Representatives
Obstacles to Access

**Survey Says…..**

- Providers reported the following barriers to using I-CARE:
  - 56% reported difficult finding staff time to enter data
  - 40% reported difficulty doing double data entry when not compatible with EMR
  - 52% reported prior unfamiliarity with the system
  - 50% reported registration process is difficult

**I-CARE is a voluntary registry**

However...

- 94% of providers feel I-CARE is crucial to tracking records and improving immunization rates
Promoting I-CARE

- Articles in quarterly newsletters
- Updates in monthly e-newsletter
- Developed I-CARE newsletter for training participants
- Hard copy flyers/fax blasts
- Web page dedicated to I-CARE-information high on Google search return
Electronic Medical Records...Then and Now

Then

- Until late 2011 I-CARE and EMR were not compatible
- Required data entry into both I-CARE and EMR

Now

- Health Level 7 interface built
- One way exchange in production
- Two way exchange: 2012 goal
- Perceived data entry barrier eliminated
Registry Consent: Opt-in vs. Opt-out

- Illinois was 1 of 9 states with opt-in registry
- Required providers to obtain signed consent from every patient/parent
- Incomplete historical records
- Additional unbillable counseling time
- Cost analysis showed opt-out model is more cost-effective
- January 2011: ICAAP and partners introduced Immunization Data Registry Act
- I-CARE an Opt-out registry: effective July 1, 2011
Immunization Registry Trainees

- Pediatric and family practice providers (public and private): 850 clinic sites
- Illinois School Nurses: 650 school nurses in Illinois
- Health Departments: 150 plus sub-clinics
- Department of Human Services: Case Management Agencies
- Women Infant Children (WIC) Providers: 385 WIC sites
- Hospitals/Nursery staff: 110 hospital clinics
- Mobile Clinic Vaccinators
Importance of Training Opportunities

- Necessary to introduce and promote registry
- Connect the registry with supporting organizations
- Establish as a valuable contact for questions and concerns: address concerns promptly
- Improve confidence in registry
- Distribute evaluations, collect feedback
- Customize each training based on feedback
- Be upfront about shortcomings of registry
Office-Based Training

- On site training for clinic/practice staff
- Customized presentation: complete needs assessment prior to training
- Tour of the live registry
- Overview of benefits and features
- Opportunity to troubleshoot
- Guidance through registration process
- Receives resource binder
- Brainstorm about inclusion of registry into daily workflow
Webinar-Based Training

- Reach wider audience
- Access training without leaving office/clinic
- Review benefits of utilizing a statewide registry
- Introduce additional training opportunities
- Promote registry training videos
- Q & A session
Computer-Lab Training

- Half day seminar hosted in a computer lab
- Each attendee has their own computer, receives resource binder
- Enter sample patient data onto the I-CARE test environment
- Overview of benefits and features
- Run registry reports using test data
- Troubleshooting
- Register on-site
- Most valuable training opportunity
Looking into the Future…

Meaningful Use and I-CARE

- Eligible providers: Medicaid EHR Incentive Program
- Can qualify for $63,750 in financial incentives
- Submitting electronic data to IIS registries: 1 main objective
- Cost of HL7 Interface outweighed by potential financial benefits
- Don’t be left behind!
I-CARE Training and Outreach Outcome

- 205% increase in providers using I-CARE
- 17% increase in patients records in I-CARE
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