

Richard Whitley, M.S.
Administrator

Tracey D. Green, M.D.
State Health Officer



Contact Name: Martha Framsted, PIO
Phone Number: 775.684.4014
Release Date: September 20, 2012
Page 1 of 1

NEVADA STATE HEALTH DIVISION NEWS RELEASE

Nevada Sees Continued Improvements in Childhood Immunization Rates

State Registry, WebIZ, is part of the picture

Carson City – The Nevada State Health Division is pleased to announce improvements in the state's childhood immunization rates. The newly released 2011 National Immunization Survey (a vaccination coverage survey of children born during January 2008 – May 2010) shows that Nevada's immunization ranking improved from 51st in the nation to 40th for vaccine coverage in 19-35 month-old children.

There is a correlation between the increase in immunization rates and use of the statewide immunization registry, Nevada WebIZ. The growth, functionality, and utilization of the registry has been remarkable since the enactment of NRS 439.265 and corresponding regulations in 2009. Nevada is experiencing positive effects of registry enhancements and mandatory reporting statutes for Nevada WebIZ. The law requires all childhood, adolescent and adult immunizations to be recorded in Nevada WebIZ.

"While it's encouraging to see our efforts paying off through increased immunization activities, we know there are areas for improvement. We must continue to educate parents and our communities about the importance of vaccinations to help avoid future resurgences of serious, preventable illnesses," says Erin Seward, MPH, State Immunization Program Manager.

Additionally, the National Immunization Survey collects data on teenagers (13-17 years old). The numbers are increasing for teens receiving one dose of tetanus, diphtheria/acellular pertussis (Tdap), 1 dose of meningococcal, and 1 dose of human papillomavirus (HPV). Tdap has improved by 11.9% to 80.2%, meningococcal has improved by 6.1% to 60.3%, and HPV for girls by 7.9% to 55.3%.

"Again, we believe that the increase in teen vaccination rates is due to Nevada WebIZ and the hard work, shared by our school districts, health districts and immunization coalitions. The registry allows providers to determine what their patients' immunization status is so that they can properly vaccinate and document," Seward said.

For more information about immunizations or the Immunization Program, please go to:
<http://health.nv.gov/Immunization.htm>.

###

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Whitley".



Richard Whitley, Administrator

4150 Technology Way, Suite 300 Carson City, Nevada 89706
Phone (775) 684-4200, Fax (775) 684-4211
NEVADA STATE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER