



Tab and Gab Immunization Newsletter

Wyoming Department of Health-4th Quarter- 2013



Manager's Corner By Lisa Wordeman

On December 31st, I saw a quote by Brad Paisley that read, "Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365 page book. Write a good one." It made me look forward to 2014 and think about what might be written in my pages this year.

What will be the highlights of 2014 in your facility? What will your chapter on immunizations look like? Do you expect to have high vaccination rates for your childhood immunizations? Are you striving to ensure everyone in your facility is working towards the same goal of safe vaccine storage and handling? Maybe you're excited to write in your chapter that your facility had no vaccine waste in

2014. Regardless of what you anticipate your 365 page book will hold, the Immunization Program is here to help with your immunization chapter. We are currently working on planning SIX Regional Trainings this year and are excited about the level of education we'll be providing to all of you. We have also worked closely with Control Solutions and ordered two (2) data logger thermometers for each provider in order to align with the recommendations from the CDC. Finally, we are working on providing updated training materials via webinar in order to better educate providers on areas that are important

to you. The Immunization Program is here to help and is just an email or phone call away. As you look forward to the achievements you'd like to make in 2014, don't hesitate to reach out to us so we can support your endeavors. We want to see you succeed and look forward to the journey with you.



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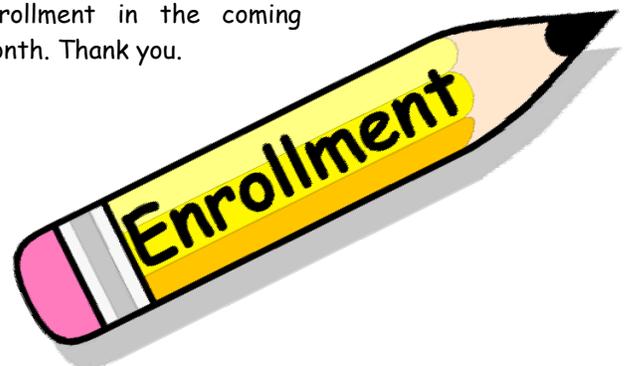
2014 Provider Enrollment By Jude Alden, Vaccine Program Specialist

The current VFC/WyVIP Provider Enrollment Agreements will expire on February 28, 2014.

Providers must complete the Provider Profile and two Vaccine Coordinator Checklists prior to

receiving the Provider Enrollment Agreement. The distribution date for the Enrollment Agreement has not yet been determined. Vaccine Coordinators will receive an email notification when more information is available.

Please keep an eye out for additional information regarding provider enrollment in the coming month. Thank you.





Data Logger Thermometers

By Lisa Wordeman, Program Manager

The Immunization Program is pleased to be able to provide a data logger kit, which includes two data logger thermometers, to all providers to assist with the proper storage and handling of publicly-supplied vaccines. These thermometers will help providers to ensure compliance in 2015 when data logger thermometers will be a requirement

for the VFC/WyVIP Program. Data logger thermometers capture more detailed information on temperatures and provide valuable information for cold chain investigation. The Program has been encouraging the use of data logger thermometers for a couple of years and is thankful for the opportunity to provide two of them to every VFC/WyVIP provider. If

you haven't already done so, please contact Control Solutions at (888) 311-0636 to order your data logger kit. If you have already purchased a data logger thermometer for your units, you may use this data logger thermometer kit as a backup thermometer or use the credit towards the purchase of any Control Solutions, Inc. item.



SAVE THE DATE: 2014 Regional Trainings

By Lisa Wordeman, Program Manager

The 2014 Regional Trainings have been scheduled! These are the locations of our trainings this year:

- May 20 Sheridan
- May 22 Riverton
- June 10 Cheyenne
- June 12 Casper
- June 24 Rock Springs
- June 26 Jackson

Registrations and agendas will be available in the next couple of months. Topics this year will cover vaccine effectiveness and efficacy; storage and handling; how to reach adolescents; history of vaccines and how vaccines work; VFC 101 for new vaccine coordinators; and as always, updates from all program areas. This training will be beneficial for those

who have attended before and crucial for any new vaccine coordinators. Please note: This training will meet the new CDC requirement that all providers receive annual storage and handling education. Facilities who are not represented at the regional trainings must participate in an alternative educational opportunity in 2014.



You've Received a New Data Logger...Now What?

By Kristy Westfall, Quality and Compliance Specialist



1. Make sure the device came with a valid certificate of calibration. Review the Thermometer Calibration Certificate Checklist to ensure the new data logger meets CDC requirements for calibration.
2. Review the user manual for the data logger and any other material that came with the device to become familiar with the data logger.
3. Install any software that came with the data logger and configure the device with these recommended settings:
 - a. Reads & records temperatures in °C (Celsius)
 - b. Memory storage of at least 4000 readings, will not rewrite over old data, and stops recording when memory is full;
 - c. Logging interval (or reading rate) set at every 15 minutes
 - d. Hi/Low alarms set at:
 - i. Refrigerator - high alarm: 8.1°C and above; low alarm: 1.9°C and below
 - ii. Freezer - high alarm: -14.9°C and above; no low alarm needed for freezer
4. It is recommended that you download and review your data weekly, preferably on Mondays.
5. Min/Max temperatures need to be read and recorded on the temperature logs daily when the current AM temperatures are recorded.

If you have general questions including min/max temperature recordings, reviewing data, etc. contact the Immunization Unit staff at 307-777-7952. However, if you have technical questions about the new data logger, please contact the manufacturer for further guidance.



Min/Max Temperatures-Who needs to be recording them and why?

By Kristy Westfall, Quality and Compliance Specialist

Recently there has been a lot of discussion regarding min/max temperatures, who needs to be recording them, and why.

WHY?

Min/max temperatures are extremely important for identifying out of range temperatures of storage units after hours or on weekends when staff is not available to monitor the current temperatures.

However, without the use of a calibrated data logger to more thoroughly review the temperatures, there is no way to accurately identify how long the temperature was out of

range. Without specific information regarding the amount of time a unit is out of range, we are forced to use the "worst case scenario" which on a 3-day weekend, could be as long as 72 hours.

WHO?

Only providers that have a **calibrated data logger thermometer** should record the min/max temperatures of their storage units on the monthly VFC/WyVIP Temperature Logs.

This will provide providers with more data regarding the stability of their storage units.

"Guidance on Recording Min/Max Temperatures" was released via email in November and can be found on the VFC/WyVIP Providers-Educational Resources webpage.

As a reminder, all out-of-range Min/Max temperatures from a calibrated data logger must be reported to the Immunization Unit Clinical Specialist.



Even if you have a data logger, an alarm system, or a call-in system, all VFC/WyVIP Providers must still record their temperatures twice-a-day on the Temperature Log. **Don't Forget to Check Your Temps!**



Compliance Visit Annual Report

By Kristy Westfall, Quality and Compliance Specialist

The following data was gathered from the 2013 Compliance Visits. Site Visits were completed for 100% of provider sites in Wyoming, which consists of two areas of VFC Compliance:

- VFC Administration Guidelines, and
- VFC Guidelines for Proper Vaccine Storage and Handling.

Administration

- 13% of provider sites did not routinely administer all ACIP recommended vaccines
- 5% of provider sites charge a vaccine administration fee to non-Medicaid VFC eligible patients in excess of the state cap which is currently \$21.72

Storage and Handling

- 36% of provider sites had at least

One (1) outdated Vaccine Information Statement

- 20% of provider sites had no calibrated thermometer in their refrigerator
- 17% of provider sites had no calibrated thermometer in their freezer
- 20% of provider sites did not have a written vaccine management plan that included all 8 required components
 - 12% of provider sites did not have a working thermometer in the refrigerator
- 10% of provider sites did not have a working thermometer in the freezer
- 7% of provider sites did not have a **DO NOT DISCONNECT** sign on

the circuit breaker

We cannot stress enough the importance of making sure all staff members are properly trained.

The Primary and Secondary Vaccine Coordinators are ultimately responsible for making sure the program is properly managed; however, all staff members who administer vaccines, monitor and record temperatures, bill patients for vaccine administration, etc. are also responsible for making sure program requirements are met. There are many resources available on the Immunization Unit website at www.immunizewyoming.com to help train and prepare staff to ensure all areas of compliance are being met.



Changes to WyIR Inventory Reconciliation-By Jude Alden

"Correction of Invalid Entry"

When reconciling WyIR Inventory there is no longer an option to select "Correction of Invalid Entry." Providers should account for every single dose of publicly supplied vaccine and reconcile accordingly. If there is a situation, such as dual receipt of a vaccine order, where none of the Categories and Reasons seem to apply, contact LaChel May or Jude Alden to correct the error on your behalf.

"Administered" vs. "Historical" and Inventory

When vaccines are entered into a patient's record as "Historical" the dose does NOT decrement from the WyIR Inventory. Vaccines should only be entered as "Historical" if they

were given outside the provider's clinic system, out of state, or country.

If vaccine is accidentally entered as "Historical" the provider must fix it in order to report correct inventory to the CDC. The patients record should be changed so that the vaccine is entered as "Administered" along with selecting the correct lot information for the correct date. To correct this error see the WyIR Quick Reference Guide-Vaccinations located in the WyIR Document Center. Specifically review page 2, "Edit/Delete Vaccination Information," and page 1, "Add Administered Vaccinations."

"Save" vs. "Submit" and Vaccine Orders

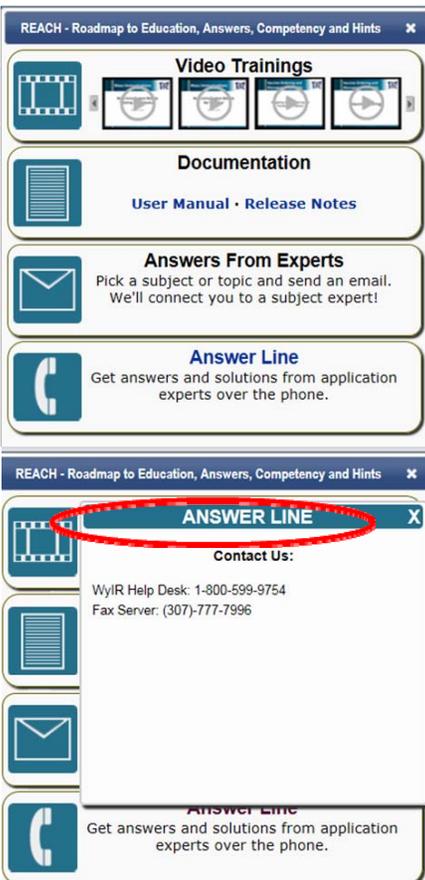
WyIR Inventory must be reconciled

and the provider must click "Submit" prior to placing a vaccine order. If you click "Save" you must then reconcile again before you can select "Submit." A best practice is to enter the order screen and let the system take you to the Reconciliation screen. After reconciling each vaccine then click "Submit." The system will automatically take you to the order screen. The "Save" function should only be used if your reconciliation is interrupted and you will need to finish it later, otherwise always "Submit."

***When a provider reconciles in the new version, doses must be entered for each vaccine in the physical inventory column in order to "Submit."**



Improvements in WyIR Version 5.13.8.1 By John Anderson, WyIR Project Coordinator

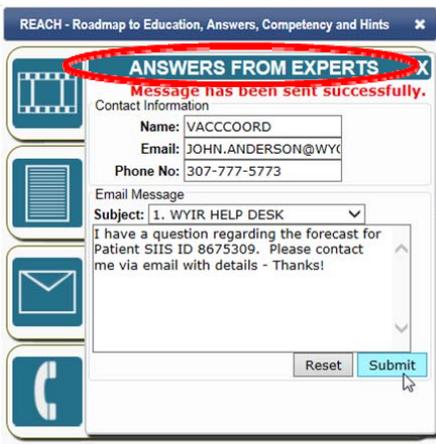


In this version upgrade, users will notice that the previous Help link has been changed to the Answers link. After clicking the link, a window with helpful information appears - as presented options are greatly expanded from the previous version.

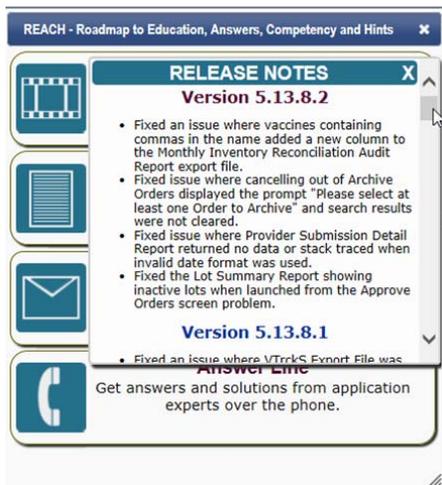
When users click on the **Answer Line**, the WyIR Help Desk number and Fax line appear. As a reminder, all WyIR Forms need to be sent via email attachment. All HIPAA related requests may be faxed to the number listed for further processing.

Improvements in WyIR Version 5.13.8.1 CONTINUED

By John Anderson, WyIR Project Coordinator

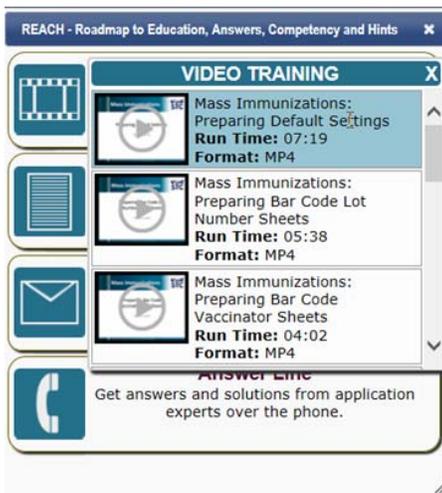


The **Answers from Experts** section is similar to the previous Help section, but provides a confirmation message that the email message has been sent successfully. This feature provides users an option to email staff directly within the application - there is no need to open another window for sending an email to us - once you have a question, click on the link, complete the fields, and submit. As a reminder, this e-mail is not secure, so if submitting a question about a patient, please provide only the SIIS Patient ID number, and send PHI in a secure email only.



An added feature is provided by our software vendor in this version: **Release Notes**, which will improve communication regarding the upgrades by informing users of fixed issues in each version.

One important change to note in this version is the automation of the password reset functionality. When clicking the "forgot password" link, users will now receive an updated temporary password from the WySIIS Scheduler, rather than WyIR Staff, when requesting a password.



Also new to this version is a **Video Training** option. The topics covered relate to Mass Immunizations and use of the Bar Code Scanner. However, don't get too excited yet - in this version, there is a known bug that prevents the videos from displaying. Our vendor is aware of the issue and is working on a solution to get it fixed as soon as possible.

As always, we welcome your feedback regarding the changes to the system - it helps guide our decision making to improve the WyIR for all users. Thanks again for your use of the WyIR.

Department of Health

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For comments or suggestions regarding the
Jab and Gab Newsletter, please contact the
Newsletter Editor at
Jude.Alden@wyo.gov

WASTE REPORT Quarter 4

Wasted and Disposed

Drawn up, not used: \$2,580.55

Wasted (dropped, spilled):
\$2,593.79

Wasted and Returned

Expired: \$2,565.68

Cold Chain/Stored Improperly:
\$32,936.49

TOTAL WASTE
Cost: \$40,676.51

**Influenza vaccines are not included
in these numbers.*

Bi-Monthly Teleconference for all VFC/WYVIP Providers:

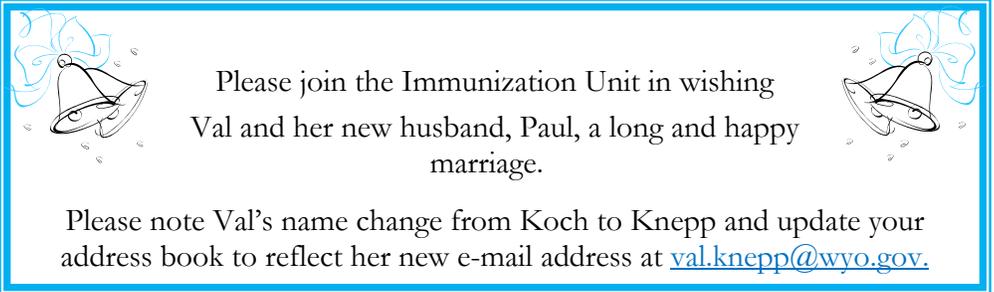
March 19, 2014 @ 12:15 p.m.

Telephone Number:

877-278-8686

(toll-free)

Pass code: 309491



New Contact Information for Diana Martin

Diana Martin, RN, MS, BSW, CPHQ, QMRP, clinical contact for Big Horn, Fremont, Hot Springs, Lincoln, Park, Sublette, Sweetwater, Teton, Uinta, and Washakie counties has moved offices. Diana is now located in Lyman, WY and can be contacted at the numbers below.

307-787-6052-Office

307-256-4442-Cell

307-787-6053-Fax

Are You Having a Flu Clinic?

Spread the word about your upcoming flu clinic by having it posted on the Immunization Unit webpage. Complete the Flu Clinic Web Posting Form found on the [Flu Season 2013-2014](#) webpage.

If you are interested in reserving the FLU BUG for your clinic, please contact Karoleigh Cassel at 307-777-7621.

2013 VFC/WyVIP

Site Visit Satisfaction Survey

Thanks to everyone that completed the Site Visit Satisfaction Survey. The feedback received will be used to improve processes as we move into 2014. The survey results will be analyzed and presented at the 2014 Regional Trainings.

Updates to Provider Forms and Reports

The following forms are new for 2014:

- Vaccine Return Form
- Vaccine Borrowing Justification Form
- Short-Dated Vaccine Transfer Request
- Temperature Log-FREEZER
- Temperature Log-REFRIGERATOR

