

Immunization Registry Interoperability Project

Nancy L. Barrett, MS, MPH
Connecticut Department of Public Health
Immunization Program



What is the Interoperability Project?

The CT DPH Immunization Program received funding for a 2 year pilot project to build the capacity for electronic exchange of pediatric immunization data between provider Electronic Health Record (EHR) systems and the new CT Immunization Registry and Tracking System (CIRTS).

CIRTS Improvements

- Old CIRTS: primarily paper-based
 - Providers recorded immunizations on paper forms.
 - DPH Immunization staff manually entered data.
 - A few providers had direct data entry access to CIRTS.
- New CIRTS:
 - Direct web-based data entry available to all providers (eventually).
 - Capacity to receive an electronic data feed containing the immunization information.
 - Capacity to generate electronic data feed containing updated information.

Benefits of EHR-CIRTS Interoperability

■ For Providers

- Reduce data entry and errors – only need to enter data into your EHR/EMR.
- Faster data entry will improve:
 - Completeness of immunization histories, and,
 - Quality of immunization coverage assessments.
- More time to use CIRTS capabilities to benefit their patients (printing official immunization certificate, generating roster lists, and reminder/recall reports).

Benefits of EHR-CIRTS Interoperability²

- For DPH Immunization Program
 - Less data entry and fewer data entry errors – data will be received electronically instead of on paper.
 - Improve the timeliness of immunization coverage assessments.
 - Immunization data is more easily available for other public health data needs.
 - Immunization data is of higher quality and based on national data standards.

Progress to Date

- Year 1 (August 2011 – August 2012)
 - Define system requirements for standardized uni-directional immunization message exchange.
 - Identify pilot providers to test electronic immunization exchange.
- Year 2 (August 2012 – August 2013)
 - Expect first one-way electronic data exchange from provider EHR to new CIRTIS by August 2013.

What the Interoperability Project IS

- IS a pilot project to:
 - Build technology and capacity for immunization message exchange, and,
 - Establish standards, methods, validation, and business protocols for immunization message exchange.
- Requires an incremental approach to ensure data validation and data assurance.
- CT DPH needs to use methods that can be sustained with little or no future funding.

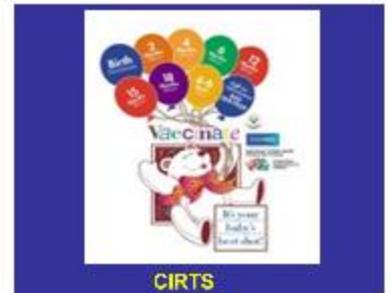
and IS NOT

- IS NOT “Meaningful Use”
 - Public Health requirements (state mandated) are independent of “Meaningful Use” (MU) requirements, although there is overlap in content and standards.
 - Efforts to achieve CIRTS-provider electronic data exchange will benefit providers for both public health and MU efforts.

For More Information

- EHR – CIRTS Interoperability
Diane Fraiter, Technical Lead
diane.fraiter@ct.gov
- For additional information see
www.ct.gov/dph/immunizations
- For information on CIRTS
Nancy Sharova, CIRTS Coordinator
nancy.sharova@ct.gov

CT Immunization Registry and Tracking System (CIRTS)



THANK YOU & Questions

Immunization Program Staff

Nancy Sharova

Vincent Sacco

Nancy Barrett

Immunization and Interoperability Technical Staff

Diane Fraiter

Ramadasu Lingham

Abhilasa Korade

Hima Kancherla