

Central Washington Vaccine Preventable Disease Coalition – MINUTES: November 27, 2012

Vision: Maximum protection against vaccine preventable disease for the Central Washington region.

Mission: The coalition works to provide the opportunity to collaborate with community partners to identify, network, educate and take action to support the well being of the Central Washington region against vaccine preventable diseases.

Meeting Facilitators: Ruth Rosenkranz & Dr. Stephen Pearson

Minutes: Mary Lou Shefsky

Also in Attendance: Justin Fillmore, Lisa Hefner, Gail Fast, Candy Delagasse, Steve Domini, John Kim, Marc Stoffer, Jay Clark, Cal Anderson, Cris Sears, Erin Kilroy, Diane Chambers, Tammy Tavares, Kristie Mybrum, Karen Queen, Sheryl DiPietro, Katie Fuchs, Steve Frawley

By Phone Conference Call: Rhonda Hirst, WA State Immunization Information System (WSIIS) NEW WEBSITE FOR NEW NAME: www.waiis.wa.gov.

A. Minutes from September 18, 2012 meeting reviewed and accepted.

B. Old Business & Updates from Counties

1. Updates from the Counties

- **Benton/Franklin** – Health Care Worker project, looking at rates of vaccinations for health care employees, is being completed sooner than expected; should be done this month. Most of the providers are hospital-based, but they are also working with smaller entities to get staff members vaccinated. Many people don't know that Hepatitis B is required. They have had four confirmed pertussis cases in the past week. (They are seven-year-olds in the same school in Prosser.)

- **Yakima** – Pertussis is slowing down; we no longer have 11 a day.

2. Updates from other partners

- Pharmacies: Nancy Hecox presented the adult vaccine program at a recent conference.

- YNHS: Have mandated that all 178 employees have flu vaccines by November 1; it is going well. Two employees have contraindications and are wearing masks. They are doing flu shot campaigns, and people have been asking for Tdap as well.

- YPA: We don't have a mandate, but all 30 employees got the flu vaccine.

- Cornerstone: All of the employees were immunized by November 1. There are a lot of Tdaps given. They have expectant parents and expectant grandparents who have been requesting Tdaps.

- CWF: Also vaccinating. Some varicella was going to expire, so it was given for free.

- EPIC:

- Occupational Health: Not capturing the numbers they used to because people have been going to pharmacies on their own. They are not mandating Tdap.

- National Study Results not yet out; likely to reduce time between boosters; it is recommended that women get Tdap for each pregnancy.

- Providers

- Partners

- Vaccine Reps: Flucelvax (sp?) has been approved by the FDA. (new seasonal flu vaccine) –

<http://latino.foxnews.com/latino/health/2012/11/21/fda-approves-new-seasonal-flu-vaccine/> - This is about the first animal-cell based flu vaccine (it is not egg-based).

Mark will appreciate any support with Zostavax and clarification with where Medicare D covered people and insured individuals can best get vaccinated. Commercially-insured individuals should go to their primary care providers. Medicare D individuals should go to a pharmacy. Those without any coverage and are low-income can go to Tieton Village.

Sanofi – Linda's position in Kittitas County has been filled by Liz Whitacher (sp?). Immunization Summit in Seattle is scheduled for Friday, February 1 at Seatac Airport (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.). For international travelers: Typhoid Fever injectable (Typhin) was on allocation during September but it is now available (off allocation). Fluzone intradermal is now available through VA medical centers and public health departments. Health departments can redistribute it as they see fit. It is licensed for 18 to 64 years. Flu peaks in Pacific Northwest in February-March; we should keep promoting flu vaccines.

Steve – PCV 13 now has an indication for adults, for age 50+ years. For adults, it would be purchased; it is covered by Medicare Part B.

3. State Fair Flu Shot Booth Report: Four participating pharmacies: Walgreens (40th Ave), Tieton Village Drug, Howard's Pharmacy (Selah), Safeway-Grandview – They did over 720 flu shots, and also some Tdap and pneumococcal vaccines. Walgreens donated 200 flu shots.

C. New Business

1. Ruth attended the Immunization Action Coalition of WA Quarterly Meeting in October.

Presentation on two small studies done:

- WA Russian Speaking Population
- Somali Communities in WA

These studies had similar recommendations: They are a lot of misconceptions; in both the Russian and Somali populations are influenced by their educators and religious leaders.

2. Ruth report on School Kids Immunization Program (SKIP), an adolescent immunization project that was done by the New Orleans Immunization Coalition. After Hurricane Katrina, some people wrote some grants and took on immunizing. They used to have some of the worst rates in the country, and now they have some of the best. One of the mobile immunization drives was dually trained to drive and do data entry. They connected like-minded people and tapped into what other people were successfully doing in different places around the country. Ruth will distribute their plan for our review and consideration for how it might apply to us in Central Washington.
3. Adult Immunization Summit for Central Washington Project – A summit can identify other groups of people (beyond those in the medical field) that can positively affect immunization rates, for example, first responders, County commissioners, hospice workers, manufacturing community, and others, by pulling them together to educate and promote immunization.

Question: Should we as a group focus on Adults or on Adolescents? Karen offered that there is a need for immunization support for adults who don't have any insurance coverage. Gail offered that she is interested in adolescents, but there is also a need for promoting vaccinations for teachers. John offered that there might be a quicker short-term return with adolescents because there are no financial barriers. Adult vaccination is a timely topic because of the upcoming requirement to have health coverage through an insurance exchange. We might consider reviewing and thinking about both. We might develop two groups to look at both project options. Ruth is available to meet on the two topics. Gail will set up a go-to meeting for adolescents, inviting Cris, Stephen, John, Erin, and Tammy. Ruth will set up a meeting an adults, inviting Mark, John, Steve, and Jay. The goal is to learn more about their focus topic and present information at the next meeting in February. Rhonda is interested in information on both group meetings at this point.

4. Vaccine Issues Speakers for this coming Spring:

Possible Dates: Early on a Friday morning: April 19, April 26, May 3 are possibilities. Let Ruth know if you are not available on any of these dates. The North Pacific Pediatric Society meeting is in Portland the weekend after April 26; John will look help look into their speakers so that we might try piggy-backing to have someone speak here.

Possible Speakers: Wendy Sue Swanson (Mama Doc) from Seattle; someone from the Insurance Commission on the Health Care Act; Greg Smith from Molina (Karen will try to get contact information for Ruth). John suggested networking with Seattle Children's to see about speakers they have coming through in the spring. Gail suggested Jackie Dawson (from Wenatchee; she's a regional epidemiologist at DOH); there's someone from Alaska who is a good speaker on vaccine hesitancy: Douglas Diekema. Tammy suggested Dr. Foege (ties to U. Washington and Gates Foundation, about smallpox)

5. Upcoming Opportunities/New Resources: See HANDOUT.
6. Articles: See HANDOUT.
7. Websites: We now have a website! <http://www.centralwavpdcoalition.com/>

Next meeting date and time: Tuesday, February 5, 12:30 to 2:00, at PNWU