



## The Importance of Tracking Immunizations in MCIR: A Focus on Pharmacies

In recent years, the number of pharmacies in Michigan providing vaccinations has increased. Pharmacies increase access to immunizations by offering vaccinations at convenient locations and times. Michigan's statewide immunization registry, the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR), should be utilized to track all vaccines administered in Michigan. Vaccine providers, including pharmacies, should report doses to MCIR for the following reasons:

- By law, providers are required to report ALL immunizations administered to every child born after Dec. 31, 1993 and less than 20 years of age within 72 hours of administration.
- MCIR was expanded to a lifespan registry in 2006; all adult vaccinations are strongly encouraged to be entered into the registry.
- The Michigan Pharmacists Association House of Delegates approved a resolution in Feb. 2013 supporting legislative support of a **requirement that all vaccinations be entered into MCIR, regardless of age.**
- MCIR is used to determine vaccination coverage; **if doses are not entered, the number of people who are protected from vaccine-preventable diseases cannot be assessed.**
- There are over 8 million individuals in Michigan with a MCIR record. Providers routinely check MCIR to assess vaccination status; having up-to-date information in the registry ensures that people are not over or under-immunized.
- Comprehensive vaccine documentation in MCIR provides patients with a permanent up-to-date record of their vaccinations.
- The use of immunization registries promotes good public health practice.

### Pharmacy Data in MCIR

- Over 1,400 pharmacies are actively enrolled in MCIR (as of Feb. 2013).
- Pharmacies administered 46.5% of the Zoster doses recorded in MCIR (as of Jan. 2013).
- During the 2012-13 influenza season (as of mid-March, 2013):
  - 1,958,278 seasonal flu vaccines have been recorded in MCIR so far this season:
  - Pharmacies have entered 397,812 (20.3%) of the doses;
    - During the 2011-12 flu season pharmacies entered 13% of the doses.
    - Nationally, an estimated 20% of flu vaccinations are given by pharmacists.
  - 961 individual pharmacy sites have entered flu vaccinations into MCIR this season.
    - Last season, 647 pharmacies entered data.
  - Many corporate pharmacies (e.g. Walgreens, Target, Kroger, Meijer) transfer data electronically to MCIR from their electronic health record. These data are recorded at the individual clinic level.
  - Pharmacies administered a majority (88.5%) of flu vaccines to adults 25 years and older:

Age Group*	# of Doses	Percent
6months-4yrs	651	0.2%
5-12yrs	12,062	3.0%
13-18yrs	15,598	3.9%
19-24yrs	17,485	4.4%
25-49yrs	84,188	21.2%
50-64yrs	120,345	30.3%
65+yrs	147,454	37.1%

\*19 had missing age information

## **Frequently Asked Questions for Pharmacies who want to Enter Vaccination data into MCIR:**

**Q1:** *What initial steps do I need to take to enroll in MCIR?*

**A1:** 1) Determine who will be the Site Administrator at your pharmacy. This person is responsible for registering and monitoring MCIR User accounts for the organization. Site Administrator training is available here: <http://mcir.org/SiteAdministratorTraining.html>

2) Complete the MCIR Provider User/Usage Agreement: [http://mcir.org/forms/MCIR\\_Provider\\_User-Usage\\_Agreement.pdf](http://mcir.org/forms/MCIR_Provider_User-Usage_Agreement.pdf) and fax the completed form to the appropriate contact: [http://www.mcir.org/contact\\_regions.html](http://www.mcir.org/contact_regions.html) (click on your county to look up the appropriate fax number).

**Q2:** *What do I need to do once I have completed the User/Usage Agreement and have received an email message from mcir@michigan.gov with the subject "MCIR User Registration"?*

**A2:** Complete the MCIR User Registration- A One Time, Four Step Process. The following link outlines how: <http://www.mcir.org/forms/Registration4StepProcess.pdf>

**Q3:** *How do I use MCIR to find (or add) patients and record immunizations?*

**A3:** The following tip sheet provides a step-by-step process:

[http://www.mcir.org/forms/General\\_Immunizing\\_Pharmacy\\_Instr.pdf](http://www.mcir.org/forms/General_Immunizing_Pharmacy_Instr.pdf)

**Q4:** *Can I use my pharmacy system to upload data?*

**A4:** You may be able to. More information is available here:

<http://www.mcir.org/ProviderTransferInfo.html>

**Q5:** *How often should I submit data electronically to MCIR?*

**A5:** Ideally on a daily basis. If you are uploading from an EMR, this process takes approximately 5 minutes at the end of the day.

**Q6:** *Does using MCIR require a lot of work?*

**A6:** Once you have a process in place, there is minimal work required.

**Q7:** *Who do I contact if I have questions?*

**A7:** MCIR Regional contacts can be found here: [http://www.mcir.org/contact\\_regions.html](http://www.mcir.org/contact_regions.html)

You can also contact the MCIR help desk at: 1-888-243-6652 or email at: [MCIRhelp@mphi.org](mailto:MCIRhelp@mphi.org)

### **Additional Information:**

- Patients must be provided with an up-to-date Immunization Record that includes doses administered at pharmacies. Additional information can be found at [http://www.aimtoolkit.org/children/misc/Imm\\_Record\\_Card\\_Info\\_122706.pdf](http://www.aimtoolkit.org/children/misc/Imm_Record_Card_Info_122706.pdf)
- Make sure you are using the Michigan Vaccine Information Statements (VIS) ([http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2942\\_4911\\_4914-138197--,00.html#english](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2942_4911_4914-138197--,00.html#english))
  - VIS are information sheets produced by the CDC that explain both the benefits and risks of a vaccine to vaccine recipients, their parents, or their legal representatives. Federal law requires that VIS be handed out whenever certain vaccinations are given.
  - **In Michigan, it is important that Michigan versions of VIS are distributed because they include verbiage that informs the vaccine recipient that their immunization data will be entered into MCIR.**
- If you enter your vaccine information in the Health Map Vaccine Finder (<http://flushot.healthmap.org/>) please ensure your information is up-to-date.

For more information on participating in MCIR, visit: <http://www.mcir.org/Pharmacyinfo.html>. For additional information on seasonal influenza vaccination, visit: [www.michigan.gov/flu](http://www.michigan.gov/flu) or [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu).

Please contact Cristi Carlton, MPH, Vaccine-preventable Disease Epidemiologist with MDCH at [carltonc2@michigan.gov](mailto:carltonc2@michigan.gov) or 517-335-9104 if you have questions.