

## **Michigan**

**Project title:** Michigan Childhood Immunization Registry

**Organization responsible:** Michigan Department of Community Health

**Service coverage area:** State of Michigan

**Annual birth cohort:** 130,000

### **Project scope and goals**

The Michigan Childhood Immunization Registry (MCIR) is populated with the electronic birth certificate of every child born in Michigan since January 1, 1994. Demographic data for all new births are extracted weekly from the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) birth certificate system for loading into the MCIR. The state health department receives birth certificate data electronically from 95 percent of Michigan's birthing hospitals, capturing 97 percent of all births within two weeks. The MCIR also interoperates with the MDCH death certificate system, extracting death records monthly and matching registry records. Records that match are locked from examination by MCIR users and do not generate reminder or recall notices. Vital Records and the MCIR have been operational since 1997.

MCIR links with WIC and Medicaid. Fifty percent of children from age birth to one year are enrolled in WIC and 40 percent are enrolled in Medicaid. The MCIR/WIC connection matches MCIR records with WIC participants and updates the MCIR/WIC ID field.

WIC staff at 210 clinics can easily identify their clients in the MCIR at the point of service. This allows the MDCH WIC division to accurately assess immunization levels at state, regional, and clinic levels.

The MCIR, which has a field for Medicaid ID numbers, is updated monthly from the Medicaid database. This integration populates and updates the Medicaid ID field in MCIR, and allows MCIR users to verify a child's Medicaid eligibility status and to view the child's health plan enrollment. It also provides the state health department with instant immunization coverage levels of all Medicaid health plans.

In May 2005 the Michigan Department of Community Health Immunization Division designed an application for school reporting in MCIR. The Department of Education is sharing these data components with MCIR: unique student identifier; student grade; and school building demographic information. The Family Independence Agency is sharing all the site information for all licensed daycare facilities in the state. For school year 2005-06, 70 percent of the 5,000

daycare facilities, and 3,000 school buildings will report immunization levels to the State of Michigan through MCIR.

MDCH is working on integrating the MCIR with Lead, Newborn Screening, and Newborn Hearing. The Public Health Code has been re-written to support integrating MCIR with other child health data sets, and the revised code is now moving through the legislative process.

### **Funding**

Annual operation costs are \$2.4 million, which is obtained through the Healthy Michigan Fund and Medicaid. About half of total annual costs (\$1.2 million) are distributed to the MCIR regions for provider recruitment and retention.

### **History**

From its inception, the MCIR planners considered electronic birth certificate records for populating the database. The WIC component was championed by the Director of Community Health, who wanted a fast and easy reporting mechanism to assist in communicating the immunization levels of WIC children throughout Michigan. The issue of active-versus-inactive WIC participants also had to be addressed, and modifying the MCIR database proved to be more effective than writing immunization algorithms for the WIC database. The Medicaid component grew from discussions of the WIC connection. The school integration component was a product of state mandates for school reporting and a centralized location for immunization data.

### **Executive leadership and organizational endorsements**

The MCIR integration project is supported by the Director of Community Health, Bureau of Epidemiology, Immunizations, Maternal Child Infant Support, WIC, and MIS.

### **External endorsements**

Letters of support have been sent to the Governor's office from health plans, pediatricians, family practice physicians, and the Michigan Advisory Council on Immunizations to move forward with integrating MCIR with other child health data sets.

### **Significant challenges**

The Michigan Public Health Code is the most significant challenge to integrating other systems with the immunization registry. The code states: "The Michigan Department of Community Health shall use the information in the childhood *immunization* registry only for *immunization* purposes. The department shall delete information in the childhood *immunization* registry pertaining to an individual child immediately upon the child reaching the age of 20."

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