

VFC Provider-Based Reminder/Recall through an Immunization Information System to Increase Immunization Rates in a Sentinel Site Childhood Population

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Outline

- Overview
 - DC
 - Sentinel Population
 - Immunization Information System
- Description of Reminder/Recall Project
- Results
- Lessons Learned
- Contacts



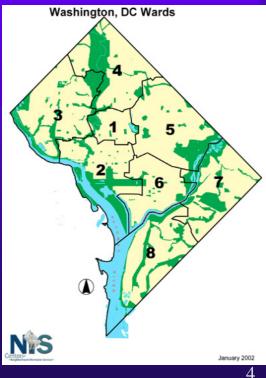
Who we are...

Washington, DC Overview

District of Columbia: "City-state"

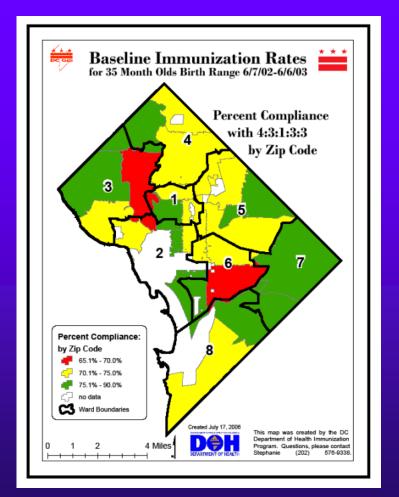
- Self-governing
- Congressional budget approval & oversight
- Non-voting congressional representation
- Overall population: **572,059** residents
- African-American: 60.0% 343,321
- 30.8% 176,101 White:
- 7.9% 44,953 Hispanic
- Asian/PI 2.7% 15,537

112,000 (20%) of residents are Children (2002)



Sentinel Site Overview: Southeast

- 90% African American, 8% white
- Household poverty 25%
- Infant mortality rate 27.5 (US average 7.1, CDC)
- Low birth weight 16% of live births (US average 8.1%)
- Births to single mothers 82% (US average 33%)
- Immunization rate by 35 months 65-75% (without varicella)



DC Immunization Information System (IIS) Overview

- 1992 Began IIS
- 2000 Linked to DC Birth Registry "population-based" and became internet-based
- 2000 Became a CDC "Sentinel Site"
- Covers 434,000 Adults and Children receiving care, attending school or child care, or residing in the District of Columbia
- "Age-less" System: tracks records birth to death
- Information received from health records (not billing)
- Integrated into Immunization Program to provide information to VFC, Assessment, Clinical teams
- Linked to Medicaid & MCOs, Alliance, VFC Providers, schools, childcare, Head Start, WIC, etc.



What we did...

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VFC Reminder/Recall Project

- Collaborators
 - -IIS
 - Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program
 - DC VFC Providers
- Goal
 - Increase immunization rates for Southeast 19-35 month old children for 4dtp:3pol:1mmr:3hib:3hepb:1var

Method

- Contact to all DC parents (phone, mail)
- 2 month recheck
- Baseline Southeast immunization rate 61.45% for 4:3:1:3:3:1, similar across city₈

Project Tasks

♦ IIS

- Identify all DC preschool children needing immunizations using automated forecasting algorithm
- Create web-based report for all underimmunized 0-4-year-old children listing immunization needs and Provider

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Project Tasks (cont.)

♦ VFC

- Distribute IIS report to each provider (certified mail, secure transmission)
- Provide reminder cards for provider use
- Provide follow-up consultation as needed
- Conduct annual VFC coCASA-AFIX visit to monitor provider practices

Provider

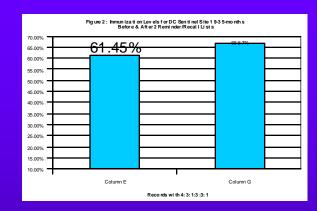
- Review list of children
- Initiate reminder/recall
- Immunize children appropriately
- Update IIS record

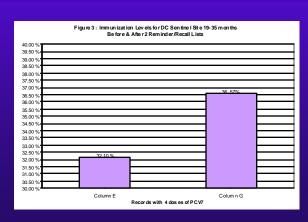


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Results

- Immunization rates increased in Southeast within 2 months for 19-35-month children
 - Overall 5% increase from 61.45% to 66.57%
 - 4th DTaP increased 5%
 - 4th PCV7 (not in overall measure) increased
 4%
 - Most significant increases in recalled children who were overdue



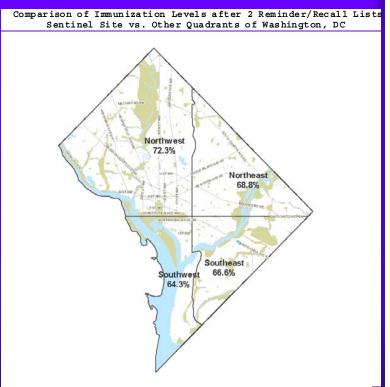




Results (cont.)

 Immunization rates for children under 12 months remained unchanged

 Immunization rates in all parts of the city rose





What we learned...

Lessons Learned

Benefits

- IIS provided quick tool to identify children
- Provider contact with parent increased childhood immunization rates
- Enhanced relationships between IIS,
 - VFC and Providers
- Focused attention on importance of immunization
- Challenges
 - Burden on provider
 - Too many children identified for reminder/recall
 - Not enough staff time
 - Difficulty reaching some patients



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Contacts

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