

# Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations

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December 18, 2012

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The Honorable Martin O'Malley  
Governor  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Peter A. Hammen  
Chair  
House Health and Government Operations Committee  
House Office Building, Room 241  
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Joan Carter Conway  
Chair  
Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee  
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 West Wing  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: The Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations 2012 Annual Report

Dear Governor O'Malley, Delegate Hammen, and Senator Conway:

In accordance with Health-General Article §18-214(k), the Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations (the Commission) is submitting its annual report to the House Health and Government Operations Committee and the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee.

In 2012, the Commission completed the following activities:

- Convened five public meetings of the full Commission to fulfill the Commission charges of identifying, addressing, and monitoring vaccine shortages and other immunization-related issues.
- The Commission's Immunization Registry Subcommittee developed a survey that was administered to 825 medical providers who participate in the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. The survey was administered to learn about provider's knowledge of ImmuNet, usage, and acceptance of mandate to use ImmuNet.
- Immunization Registry Subcommittee communicated with independent and chain pharmacies to register and work with the ImmuNet team: a) to build

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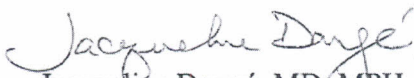
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vaccine data files for electronic transmission of pharmacy records directly from pharmacy information systems to ImmuNet; and b) to provide access to ImmuNet to a select number of independent pharmacies for manual entry of vaccines into ImmuNet.

- Immunization Registry Subcommittee began investigating the use of pharmacy claims switch companies (RelayHealth) as a means of real time, efficient exchange of all vaccine data through pharmacy claims transactions “switch processing/adjudication” into ImmuNet.
- The Commission established an Adolescent Vaccination Subcommittee to improve adolescent vaccination rates.
- On March 20, Vaccine Reimbursement workgroup convened to address vaccine reimbursement issues.
- On July 20, the Commission submitted a report to the Secretary of Health with recommendations for the Maryland Immunization Registry (ImmuNet).

This letter shall serve as the Commission’s annual report for 2012. If you have any questions, please call Greg Reed, Program Manager, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Center for Immunization and lead staff to the Commission, at 410-767-6679.

Sincerely,

  
Jacqueline Dougé, MD, MPH  
Chair of Commission

Cc:

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