

## Minutes of the DTaP #4 Subcommittee Web Meeting

July 14, 2006  
12:30 PM-1:30 PM

The Summary of Recommendations from the previous report was reviewed and discussed: A Three-Pronged approach involving the Public Health Department, the State of Texas Medical Societies, the Pharmaceutical Companies providing the immunizations, the commercial insurance companies, the CHIPS program, and the Medicaid program.

### A. Prong I

1. An intensive advertising program targeting the weakest links in the population

### B. Prong II

#### 1. Education

##### i. Physicians caring for children

1. Mandatory Immunization CME similar to the state requirement for Ethics education

- a. Requirement of proficiency for renewal of licensure

- b. Inclusion as a voluntary presentation at hospital staff meeting at least once a year

- i. Inclusion in state society meetings

- c. Public Health and School Nurses

- i. Mandatory CEUs similar to that required for physicians
    - ii. Requirement of proficiency for renewal of licensure
  - 2. Provision of an optimized, simplified Public Health Department approved immunization schedule
- A. Prong III
  - a. Government/Private Corporation/Physician/Pharmaceutical Company/Insurance Company consortium creating a Universal Immunization Program for Texas

Additions to Prong II suggested by the committee were voiced. Including child care licensing as one of the places to require education about immunizations for re-licensing would promote tracking of immunizations. This would require that the parties responsible for tracking would have proper training. The Texas Licensed Child Care Administrators Association currently has online training available (not necessarily on immunizations).

The current situation of licensure and enforcement is fragmented. DSPS Dept of Family services has the enforcement responsibility for licensure, the Department of State Health Services has the regulatory authority. An improved dialogue and coordination between the two agencies would improve completion

of the DTaP#4 by 2 years of age. Other programs where immunization input would be effective are Head Start and Early Head Start.

Missed opportunities were felt to be a major contributing factor to poor compliance results for the 4<sup>th</sup> DTaP. Education of physicians and nurses was felt to be the primary remedy and the recommendations for education of these groups were reaffirmed.

Future directions fell into four distinct categories: Day Care online learning coupled to licensure, Information Needs, Contacts and Recruitment, and Outreach.

Online learning for day care center licensure would require that a program would have to be designed and be available. Dr. Levy has volunteered to create a power point presentation that could be used for this purpose. This could then be required for license acquisition.

Information needs of day care directors include the lack of familiarity with ImmTrac. They have access, but either are unaware or do not know how to access it. The committee inquired whether licensed day care centers can also input data into ImmTrac.

Contacts and Recruitment had some specific assignments. Judy Willgren will contact LaShonda Brown to ascertain if a presentation on immunizations focused on DTaP #4 at the October conference of the Association of the Education of Young Children is possible. The timing may be too short as the conference is scheduled for October 5, 6, and 7, 2006. Dr. Levy is to contact

Judith Zefarini, a state representative, about advocating for a UIP. This would be done as a private pediatrician and not as a representative of the TISWG committee.

The DTaP # 4 committee recommends that DSPS outreach to PTA organizations aimed at educating local chapters and mobilizing "Parent Power". These organizations could then further disseminate information on immunizations. Lupe Garcia reported that the funding for Tdap has been approved. The committee strongly recommends that information on DTaP # 4 be included in the advertising that will be produced by DSPS.

No future meetings were planned.

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