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Summit Photo Spotlight



**David R. Williams
PhD**



**Carolyn Buxton Bridges
MD**



HPV Panel



**Lisa Barker
MD**

Idaho Immunization Summit Update

The third annual Idaho Immunization Coalition had another very successful Summit on September 21, 2015. The event was held at the Nampa Civic Center, Nampa Idaho. More than 200 people gathered to explore topics surrounding immunization that included strategies to overcoming hesitant parents, social influences on health, HPV updates and education on adult immunization.

Thank you to our Summit Partner, **Idaho Immunization Program** and our Silver Level Sponsors – **ISU College of Pharmacy** and **Sanofi Pasteur**, for making this event possible.

The Idaho Immunization Coalition appreciates the following Summit speakers for taking their time and sharing their passion on this day to educate the group on the most updated information on immunizations:

- Christine Hahn, MD
- David R. Williams, PhD
- Lisa Barker, MD
- Tom Patterson, MD, FAAP, FABD
- Charlene Cariou, MHS, CHES
- Brynn Fowler, MPH
- Banu E. Symington, MD, FACP
- William Atkinson, MD, MPH
- Carolyn Buxton Bridges, MD
- Anna Dragsbaek, JD

Available on the Idaho Immunization Coalition website are all of the PowerPoint presentations:

<http://www.idahoimmune.org/idaho-immunization-summit-2015/>

Additionally, please feel free to check out the Idaho Immunization Coalition Facebook page to view the 120+ pictures taken at the Summit 2015.

<https://www.facebook.com/IdahoImmunizationCoalition>

Mark your calendars now for next year's event: **Pink Book Training & Summit 2016** – November 2nd, 3rd and 4th, 2016 at the Boise Centre.

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2016 Idaho Pink Book Training

Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (aka Pink Book) Training



Save the Date

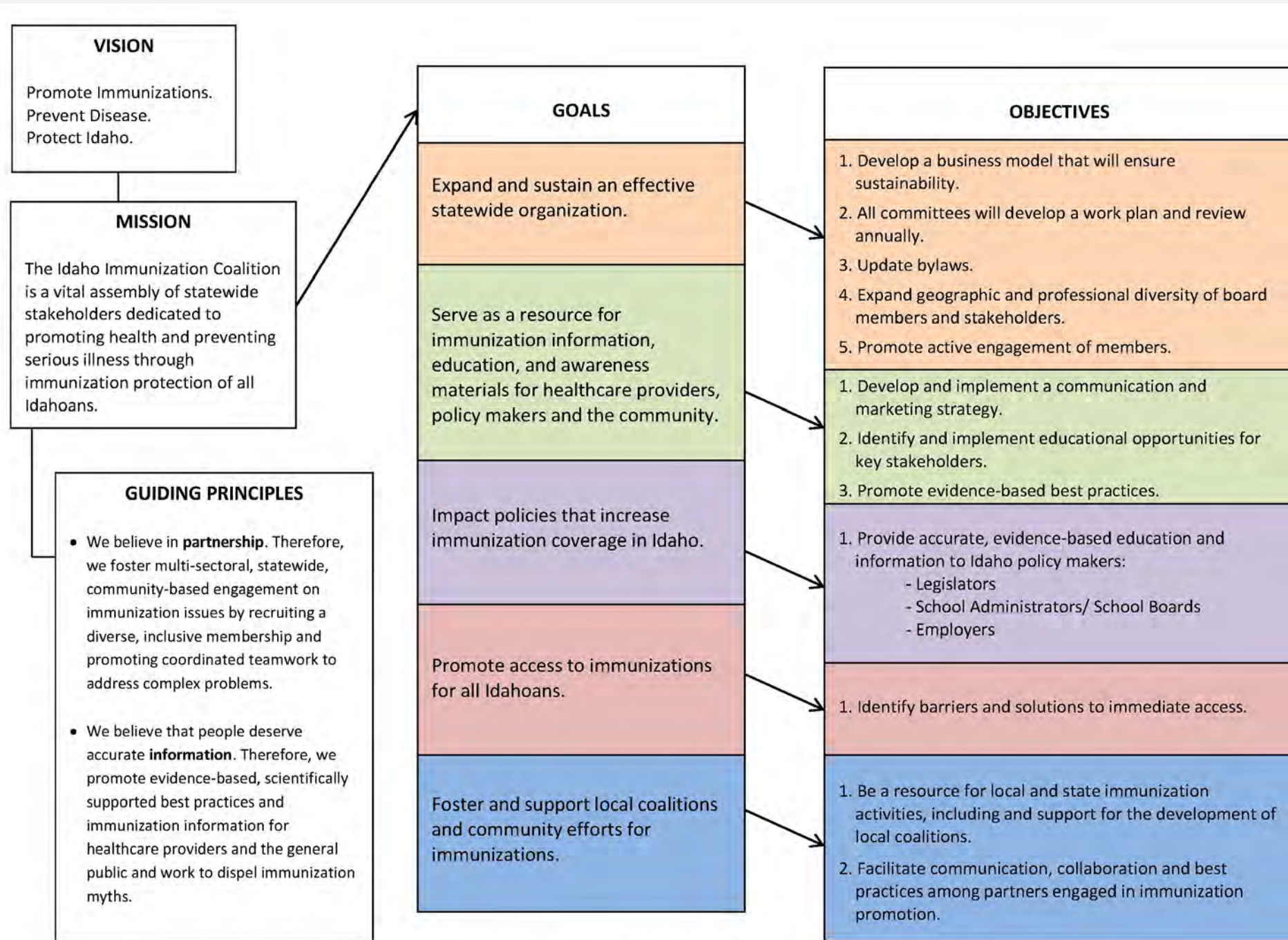
November 2nd & 3rd, 2016
Boise Centre, Boise, Idaho
Details coming soon

Immunization Summit to be held November 4th, 2016



IIC Strategic Plan

As we near the end of 2015, it's time to look forward to the coming year. The IIC has revised its strategic plan to better serve your community. Take a look at the plan below!



Idaho Immunization Coalition: 2012 – 2017 Strategic Plan

One in Five Pediatricians Drop Families Who Refuse Vaccines

Experts say deep philosophical differences, concern for other young patients may explain why

MONDAY, Nov. 2, 2015 (HealthDay News) -- About 20 percent of U.S. pediatricians regularly drop families who refuse to have their children vaccinated, according to a report published online Nov. 2 in *Pediatrics*.

Doctors in the South and Northeast were more likely to take this stance, lead author Sean O'Leary, M.D., M.P.H., a pediatric infectious disease specialist at Children's Hospital Colorado in Denver, told *HealthDay*. The researchers conducted a survey of 815 pediatricians and family physicians in 2012. About 66 percent of the doctors responded to the survey.

According to the researchers, those surveyed said it's generally rare for a parent to refuse a vaccination for their child. Overall, 83 percent of doctors reported that 1 percent or fewer parents refuse one or more infant vaccines in a typical month. When that happens, 21 percent of pediatricians and 4 percent of family physicians said they "always" or "often" dismiss families. Pediatricians likely to dismiss families over vaccination are nearly five times more likely to be in private practice, and four times more likely to be from the South or a state that does not allow philosophical exemptions from vaccination.

But O'Leary said he's heard anecdotally that pediatricians across the nation have come under pressure to refuse to take on unvaccinated children, following the Disneyland measles outbreak that occurred earlier this year. "I'm hearing the practice has become more common, particularly in California, following the outbreak," O'Leary said. "Parents say, 'I don't want to take my child to a clinic with non-vaccinators and expose them to risk,' so there is parental pressure on some pediatricians."

-Article taken from Physician's Briefing Website

[Link to Online Article](#)

[Link to Study Abstract](#)

[Link to Full Study](#)

Useful Advice

Don't Miss An Opportunity

Often the media highlights the progress that the United States, including Idaho, is making in protecting our children against vaccine preventable diseases. There is an annual two year old child coverage survey and school entry reports which detail the percentage of children who are adequately protected by vaccines. There is a national goal to have 90% of our population protected since this level is optimal in preventing disease outbreaks and protecting the population from disease.

It is very important that we monitor and assess vaccine preventable disease coverage rate in children, given their vulnerability and the outbreak potential in the school setting. Adult vaccination coverage rates are also important, given increased susceptibility as people age and the considerable cost of disease burden.

The influenza vaccination season is now in full swing in Idaho and across the nation. Carolyn Bridges, M.D. from the Immunization Services Division of the Centers for Disease control demonstrated influenza's high costs at a 2014 presentation indicating "flu's" annual direct medical costs of \$10.4 billion. If you include the costs of lost work and lost lives \$87.8 billion in costs are added to this annual total.

The flu vaccination season offers a great opportunity to assess the adult population for addition vaccines that may be needed to avoid serious illness. The National Health Interview Survey of 2013 revealed that only 24.2 % of eligible adults have been vaccinated to protect against Herpes Zoster or Shingles, which is a reactivation of the Chicken Pox virus and can be a life-changing illness for some adults. In addition, 56-64 % of adults 19 years and older have been protected against Pertussis or Whooping Cough. More surprisingly, only 29% of adults living with an infant less than one year of age have received the Tdap immunization which protects against Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis. The coverage for influenza vaccination

varies depending on age. It ranges from 35.3% for all adults to 57.4 % for adults 65 years of age and older. Many adults remember the importance of getting a flu vaccine every year in the fall season. While thousands of adults will be engaging health care systems this time of year, it is a perfect time to educate them about the other vaccines that could keep them healthy.

Pneumococcal vaccines, Tdap vaccine, Herpes Zoster vaccine, as well as the Hepatitis vaccines should be included in the adult vaccine assessment given to adult patients.

At Eastern Idaho Public Health (EIPH) immunization clinics continue to offer a variety of flu vaccine products and continue to vaccinate a significant number of adults and children. EIPH nursing staff have been instructed to screen for all appropriate vaccines during a flu appointment. Administering all indicated vaccines at one time will save the patient both time and money in the long run. It is the goal of our team to significantly raise the level of adult coverage against a list of serious vaccine-preventable diseases.

Contributors pictured right

Amy Gamett, RN (left)

Gary Rillema, RN, BSN (right)



Always Strive to Improve

Quality Improvement Efforts to Increase Adult Immunizations

According to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), immunization rates among adults have historically been low and vary between immunization types in the Medicare population.

There is an even greater variation between racial and ethnic groups. There are significant opportunities for improvement in the Northwest. Recent data indicate that Idaho and Washington have a 35% and 30% rate of Medicare beneficiaries not receiving pneumonia vaccinations, respectively. Among the region's 1.17 million Medicare beneficiaries, 77,000 eligible people in Idaho and 285,000 in Washington are not receiving pneumonia vaccinations.

Qualis Health has been awarded a \$1.8 million contract by CMS to improve the assessment of immunization status among Medicare beneficiaries in Idaho and Washington State, and improve immunization rates while reducing disparities. Qualis Health invites primary care practices and home health agencies across Idaho and Washington to join the Practice Innovation Network (PIN), to work on 1) improving assessment and documentation of Medicare beneficiary immunization status, 2) increasing overall immunization rates, and 3) reducing the immunization disparities.

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