

Idaho Immunization Coalition Newsletter

March 2016



Promote | Prevent | Protect

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ABOUT THE SUMMIT

Join us for an **inspirational** and **interactive** day at the Idaho Immunization Summit 2016!

This year, the Summit takes place at the Boise Centre in Boise, ID.

The 2016 theme is **vaccine hesitancy** and how to approach immunization concerns with confidence.

ABOUT THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Tara Haelle is a scientific and health journalist with regular publications reaching the American public at Forbes, NPR, Slate, etc. Tara Haelle helps others understand medical and health research topics such as vaccinations.



To get a preview, visit www.tarahaelle.net.

REGISTRATION

Early Bird \$25

Before July 15

Regular \$35

Before Oct 17

Same Day \$50

On Nov 4

Breakfast and educational credits included.

REGISTER AT

www.idahoimmune.org/events

Don't miss the **Pink Book Course (Nov 2-3)** -brought to you by the Idaho Immunization Coalition, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Idaho Immunization Program!

You Are Invited!

- **Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (a.k.a. The Pink Book) Course**
- **Idaho Immunization Summit**



NOV. 2-4 2016

Boise Centre | Boise, Idaho

The Course will focus on the principles of vaccination, general recommendations, immunization strategies for providers, and specific information about vaccine-preventable diseases and the vaccines that prevent them. The two-day Course will include presentations from immunization experts from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). A half-day Immunization Summit will take place on November 4th and will include national, state, and local updates on immunization practices.

For more information and to register visit: www.idahoimmune.org/events

Brought to you by the CDC, the Idaho Immunization Program, and the Idaho Immunization Coalition.

Idaho Immunization Coalition Updated Strategic Plan

Idaho Immunization Coalition

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- We believe in **partnership**. Therefore, we foster multi-sectorial, statewide, community-based engagement on immunization issues by recruiting a diverse, inclusive membership and promoting coordinated teamwork to address complex problems.
- We believe that people deserve accurate **information**. Therefore, we promote evidence-based, scientifically supported best practices and immunization information for healthcare providers and the general public and work to dispel immunization myths.

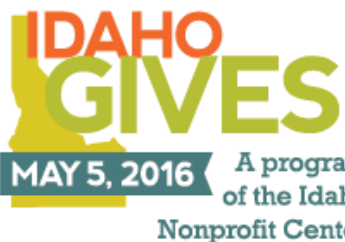
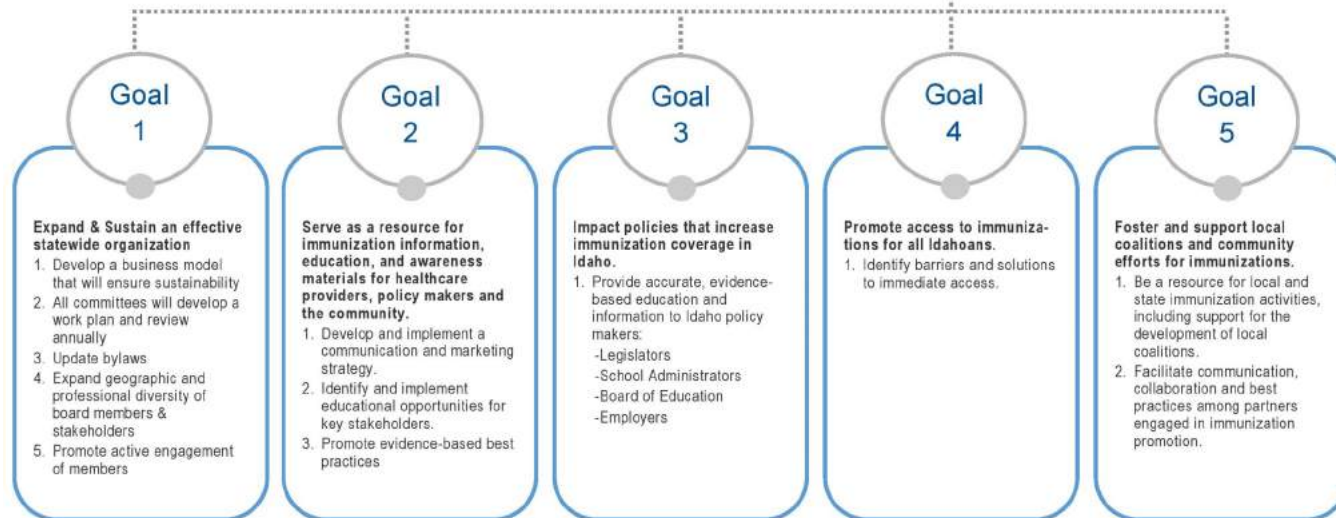
Vision

Promote Immunizations.
Prevent Disease.
Protect Idaho.



Mission

The Idaho Immunization Coalition is a vital assembly of statewide stakeholders dedicated to promoting health and preventing serious diseases through immunization protection of all Idahoans.



Get ready for another round of Idaho Gives this May 5th! More information will be sent to our supporters in the following months on how to participate in this state-wide event!

Follow Us Online



Registration Now Open!

Shot 2016 Smarts Immunization Conference



MON. 4/25/16
Pocatello

WED. 4/27/16
Boise

FRI. 4/29/16
Coeur d'Alene

www.immunizeidaho.com

In this Issue

- IIC Updates and Event Announcements
- State-Wide Meningitis Social Media Event
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- HPV News Around the Web
- NPR Article on US Adults and the Flu Vaccine
- Vaccine Storage Tips
- Heartfelt Music Video from Meningitis Angels

Advocacy Starts in the Community

ISU Students Prepare to Battle the Dark Side of Meningitis – Type B



If Type B meningitis were a movie character, it would be more ominous than anything we could possibly imagine. A deadly, stealth-like infection that first appears like the flu, Type B meningitis specifically preys on those 14 to 24 years old who ultimately find themselves in tight-knit social circles, sharing water bottles, living in dormitories, military barracks or other confined areas. Ten percent of the nearly 3,000 who contract this disease each year die within hours, another 15 percent are permanently disabled, losing their hearing, limbs, or suffering organ failure. Type B outbreaks have occurred on campuses such as Princeton, Drexel, San Diego State and much closer to home at

“When the disease strikes, campus communities are often left scrambling to respond. The only hope of true, proven prevention is vaccination...”

Oregon University. When the disease strikes, campus communities are often left scrambling to respond. The only hope of true, proven prevention is vaccination, and I’m happy to report that some local pharmacy students are stepping up to make a difference.



On Jan. 26, Doctor of Pharmacy candidates at the ISU College of Pharmacy teamed up with the Idaho Immunization Coalition to administer free Meningitis B vaccinations to students ages 19 and older at the Meridian and Pocatello campuses. Just a few years ago, the Idaho Immunization Coalition did a similar outreach providing basic meningitis shots to more than 4,200 students statewide. This new Type B effort is the first of its kind in Idaho and will also include free follow-up vaccination doses for the students.

Pharmacy students recognize the true dangers of this disease and want to elevate the level of awareness about vaccinating against Type B Meningitis, while encouraging those in their own age group to get the shots. To their credit, they’ve created a social media effort for their Operation Immunization effort that will encourage students to share photos from their “shot day” and use [#menbnotatmyu](#) in their posts. The fact is, many students simply don’t know about the Type B vaccine which was only approved for use within the past year. It’s hoped this student-to-student effort will educate and empower them to get vaccinated.



Of course, it would be easy for ISU students to just stop there, but they realize this is a much bigger issue. The APhA Academy of Student Pharmacists group involved is preparing a resolution asking ISU and other universities to consider require all be up to date vaccination would include There is



policy changes to incoming students to with their schedules, which Type B meningitis. currently no



requirement to do so. Other universities and states are making these changes in policy following various meningitis outbreaks nationwide. The students’ resolution will also go to the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare.

The encouraging news is that ISU and other universities and colleges in Idaho are already doing what they can to keep their student populations healthy. Science and medical advancements continue to produce new levels of protection through the proven means of vaccination. Solutions will come by being proactive and growing existing immunization programs as needed. Type B Meningitis is one such disease that calls for a change in policy. We have an obligation to not only educate our young people, but to listen and learn from them as well. Hopefully, this effort to do battle against one of the darkest diseases to threaten young people will put all of us on a path to a better immunization policy.

“The encouraging news is that ISU and other universities and colleges in Idaho are already doing what they can to keep their student populations healthy. “

Click here for more [#menbnotatmyu](#) campaign photos!

**Author
Kevin Cleveland, PharmD
Student Services and
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College of Pharmacy**



Success Stories from the Community

Central District Health Department Partners with Idaho Chapter AAP and IIC to put in Adolescent Immunization

Written by Heather Gagliano, RN | Registered Nurse Manager, Preventive Health Services

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), awarded Central District Health Department (CDHD) a two-part grant to support cancer prevention in the local community. The award allowed the Central District Health Department to engage locally with healthcare providers and other partners, including the Idaho Immunization Coalition, to increase HPV vaccination rates according to the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. Idaho has one of the lowest HPV vaccination rates in the country according to the 2013 National Immunization Survey conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In the United States, each year there are about 26,000 new cases of HPV-related cancers, many of which can be prevented with the vaccine.

The funds for part-one were used to identify strategies to improve vaccination rates for Human Papillomavirus (HPV), the leading cause of cervical and several other types of cancers. A team of local immunization partners gathered in April to narrow which strategies to implement. The team decided to focus on provider education as a key factor in increasing HPV vaccine.

CDHD then partnered with the Idaho Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics and Idaho Health Wellness Collaborative for Children for part of the grant. A quality improvement project for adolescent immunizations was put into place. Health care providers from around Idaho will be able to participate in yearlong adolescent immunization learning collaborative.

At this time, over 20 health care providers from around Idaho will be participating in the learning collaborative. An in-person kickoff event will be held February 11th. Local and national speakers will participate in the kickoff event and in monthly conference calls. Dr. William Atkinson will be speaking on adolescent immunizations during the kickoff event. Dr. Banu Symington will be speaking on cervical cancer. Dr. Paul Offit will presenting during the April conference call.

For more information, please visit <http://www.ihawcc.org/>.

Grant Awarded to IIC



Northwest Farm Credit Services - Rural Community Grant Program awarded the Idaho Immunization Coalition \$500 to educate elementary school students in the rural areas in the Magic Valley in protecting themselves against getting the flu.

HPV in the News

- What you don't know about the HPV vaccine may hurt you [Read it here.](#)
- HPV Vaccine Uptake is Highest Among Girls in High Poverty and Hispanic Communities [Read it here.](#) [Or here.](#)
- Associations of Oral α -, β -, and γ -Human Papillomavirus Types With Risk of Incident Head and Neck Cancer [Read it here.](#)
- Even Disney Princesses Need HPV Shots, Cervical Cancer Screenings And STD Testing (illustrations by Maritza Lugo) [Read it here.](#)

Myth of the Month

The Myth: The HPV vaccine causes fertility issues.

Fact: Claims of HPV vaccine-induced infertility are anecdotal and not backed by research or clinical trials. The HPV vaccine can actually help protect fertility by preventing gynecological problems related to the treatment of cervical cancer. It's possible that the treatment of cervical cancer could leave a woman unable to have children. It's also possible that treatment for cervical pre-cancers could put a woman at risk for problems with her cervix, which could cause preterm delivery or other problems.

Talking Point: There are no data to suggest that getting the HPV vaccine will have a negative effect on future fertility. In fact, getting vaccinated and protecting against cervical cancer can help protect a woman's ability to get pregnant and have healthy babies.

Reference:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2014) HPV Vaccine—Questions & Answers. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/hpv/parents/questions-answers.html>

[Updated ACIP Recommendations](#)

[0-18 Years of Age](#)

[19+ Years of Age](#)

[CNN Summary](#)

This Just In!

[HPV Vaccine Effectiveness Study Finds Decrease in HPV-related Cancers:](#)

[Read it here.](#)

Chilled or Frozen: Vaccine Storage at its Best

A large portion of my responsibility as the Medical Provider Liaison for Central District Health Department (CDHD) is assisting the Idaho Immunization Program by being their eyes and ears within Vaccine Provider Medical Offices in Health District Four. Each of the seven Health Districts within Idaho employs a person who fulfills this position, though the title may differ. Our goal for vaccine storage is to ensure that all of your VFC and State purchased vaccine is being stored and handled in a way that protects the vaccines and keeps them viable for administration. Protecting the VFC and State purchased vaccine is a top priority; after all, that is all of our tax dollars at work.

Those of you who administer VFC vaccine know the importance of maintaining good storage and handling procedures. But, what about the storage and handling of your adult vaccines? Are you being just as careful with them? Even though health department responsibilities do not include checking on your adult vaccine during Technical and Educational Visits, the same rules should be followed to protect them — and it doesn't mean that we won't make suggestions if we see adult vaccines being stored in questionable ways.



Remember:

- There should not be vaccine resting on the bottom of the refrigerator or freezer units, or stored in the refrigerator door.
- Make sure that you have enough room for adequate air circulation.
- Ensure that the boxes are closed.
- It is also important that you have a certified, downloadable thermometer if they are stored in a separate unit from your VFC vaccine.
- You want to make sure that your adult patients are given viable vaccines that will protect them, and that you protect the financial investment that your Medical Practice has made in those vaccines.
- Being able to provide immunizations for our patients, our friends and our neighbors, and assisting in keeping our communities healthy is a privilege and a responsibility. Maintaining the vaccine cold chain is a simple way to ensure all our vaccine is of highest quality and protected to the best of our ability.

Contributor: Sharon Brown, LPN



"Angel Wings" is a music video dedicated to those who had been affected by meningitis. A musical project by Meningitis Angels, an organization that hopes to use real-life stories of Meningitis to show the importance of vaccinating against meningitis.

"Angel Wings" is written by Nashville songwriters, Derrick Hampton and Mary W. Francis, and sung by Country Recording Artist, Curtis Braly.

This song and video will sure touch your heart. Don't forget to share with others the important message in the music video.

To learn more about Meningitis Angels:

<http://www.meningitis-angels.org/>

