

This is privileged information. Contents have not been reviewed for accuracy and may not represent ICAAP policy.

**Illinois Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics (ICAAP)
Committee on Infectious Diseases (COID) Meeting
ICAAP Office
June 29, 2005
MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Donna Beck, MD, Co-Chair
Robert Daum, MD, Co-Chair (via telephone)
Arthur Frank, MD (via telephone)
Larry Frenkel, MD
Barry Gray, MD
Karen McMahan (via telephone)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Anita Chandra, MD
Subash Chaudhary, MD
Daniel Johnson, MD
Julie Morita, MD
Stephen Saunders, MD, MPH
Tina Tan, MD
Dennis Vickers, MD, MPH

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER ABSENT:

Stan Shulman, MD

GUESTS PRESENT:

Kae Hunt, IDPH (via telephone)

STAFF PRESENT:

Michelle Esquivel, MPH (via telephone)
Shannon Perry Limjuco

WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Beck called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the December 2004 COID conference call were reviewed and approved as written.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Update on pertussis disease in Illinois

Kae Hunt, the Acting Surveillance Administrator from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) Immunization Program, provided the committee with an update on recent pertussis disease in Illinois. Last year there were 1554 confirmed or probable cases of pertussis in Illinois; in 2005 there have been 367 cases so far. The age breakdown for the 2004 cases is as follows: 80 cases in persons less than one year of age; 442 cases in persons 1-11 years of age; 599 cases in persons 12-19 years of age; 36 cases in persons 20-24 years of age; 372 cases in persons over 25 years of age; and 25 additional cases (no age identified). In 2004 many pertussis outbreaks were seen in Cook County and surrounding collar counties; however, in 2005 the majority of outbreaks have been seen in central Illinois (Champaign and Macon counties, for example). IDPH still receives

positive PCR tests about once per week from the 2004 outbreak areas, indicating that it takes a long time to completely eliminate pertussis from an outbreak region.

Ms. Hunt also discussed IDPH efforts to coordinate outreach in communities experiencing pertussis outbreaks. Responses are tailored to the specific situation and generally the local health departments take the lead on community outreach. Outreach efforts may include pertussis education in the community and the use of various media outlets (newspaper, radio, television) to disseminate public health messages about the outbreak. Letters are also provided to schools, daycare groups, and/or summer camps to send to parents. Sample letters are available in an IDPH outbreak control manual and Ms. Hunt will provide copies of these letters to the committee.

Committee members discussed patients who have deferred pertussis vaccination due to contraindications listed in the Red Book, as well as future deferrals. The IDPH does not have clear guidelines on the amount of pertussis that would need to be seen in a community in order to warrant recalling those who have been deferred and/or no longer deferring pertussis vaccination. Members noted that there is no simple way to recall all patients who have been deferred, since there are a small number of patients per practice and the process is quite time consuming. One suggestion for responding to an outbreak is to expedite vaccination with the new pertussis booster dose in the community. The committee concluded that in communities with pertussis disease, physicians should defer the vaccine as minimally as possible and promote use of the booster dose. This recommendation, along with information about new recommendations for the booster dose, should be disseminated to ICAAP members.

ACTION: Ms. Hunt will send copies of the sample pertussis outbreak control letters to Ms. Limjoco, who will disseminate copies to the committee members.

ACTION: Following the new recommendations on use of the pertussis booster dose vaccine, Dr. Beck will write an article for the *Illinois Pediatrician*.

2. Update on Illinois Perinatal HIV Prevention Act

A representative from the IDPH was not available to provide an update on the status of hospital training and implementation of the new testing rules. Members can discuss this topic at the next COID meeting if deemed necessary.

ACTION: Ms. Limjoco will contact the IDPH to get an update and relay this information to the committee members.

3. Discussion of HB 511 concerning use of thimerosal-containing vaccines

Ms. Limjoco provided a brief overview of ICAAP's lobbying efforts relating to HB 511, which was recently passed by the Illinois General Assembly and is expected to be signed by the governor. This bill prohibits the use of vaccines containing more than 1.25 micrograms of thimerosal per dose beginning in 2006, and prohibits the use of all thimerosal containing vaccines (including those with only trace amounts) beginning in 2008. This bill moved quickly through the House despite ICAAP's opposition. When the bill was in the Senate, ICAAP realized the bill was going to pass in some form and worked with the bill's proponents to mitigate the negative effects of this bill as much as possible. ICAAP was able to prevent a provision which would have required physicians to distribute a written form about thimerosal to all patients at the time of vaccination. ICAAP was also able to ensure that an exemption clause was included in the bill, which would allow the IDPH to bypass this law if an emergency arises, such as an outbreak or shortage of vaccine supply. If this law would prove prohibitively costly to IDPH, this could also be considered an emergency which could warrant an exemption.

Karen McMahon of the IDPH added that the IDPH will need to develop and issue an exemption almost immediately after this bill is signed in preparation for the upcoming influenza season.

4. ICAAP hepatitis B birth dose project

Ms. Limjucu provided committee members with an update on the ICAAP partnership with the IDPH to promote the hepatitis B birth dose in Illinois hospitals. ICAAP would like to enlist members' help to meet with targeted hospitals which do not have policies and/or standing orders for routine administration of the birth dose. The ICAAP has a goal of meeting with at least ten hospitals by year end. Ms. Limjucu can provide a list of targeted hospitals and more information for members who are interested in helping with this project.

It was noted that St. Francis Hospital in Peoria recently changed their policy in favor of the routine birth dose, in large part due to the efforts of Dr. Jalayne Lapke who is on staff at the hospital and a faculty member for the ICAAP Reaching our Goals program.

ACTION: Ms. Limjucu will send the list of targeted hospitals to Drs. Daum and Frenkel, who both indicated an interest in helping with this project.

ACTION: Ms. Limjucu will contact Dr. Lapke to discuss her success in changing hospital policies at St. Francis Hospital.

5. Reaching Our Goals, CDPH and IDPH

- ICAAP held several train-the-trainer sessions for new faculty in March, and now has a cadre of over 30 faculty who will present the Reaching our Goals (ROG) program.
- ICAAP plans to schedule 30 ROG office-based trainings in Chicago by the year end through the CDPH grant, and 30 additional trainings outside of Chicago through the IDPH grant, in the following counties: Champaign, Cook, Lake, Kane, McHenry and Peoria. Trainings are already underway and will continue throughout the remainder of the year.
- ICAAP will continue to conduct trainings for medical assistants through a revised ROG program curriculum. Two trainings were held in April at Robert Morris College in Peoria and Orland Park, respectively; several more are planned to take place in Chicago later this year.
- ICAAP held its first ROG training for office managers on June 24 in Chicago, in partnership with Blue Cross Blue Shield and Amerigroup. Over 90 individuals registered for the conference and nearly 60 attended. Components of the ROG curriculum were presented along with a special focus on immunization coding and the state immunization registry.
- In March the CDC presented the City of Chicago with an award at the National Immunization Conference for the most improved immunization rates. Julie Morita, Director of the CDPH Immunization Program, attributed the improved rates to a combination of efforts including the Reaching Our Goals program, which has been conducted in practices throughout Chicago for the past four years.
- ICAAP is partnering with the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians to present the ROG program at two of their "Medicine for Today" conferences this fall in Peoria and Rockford.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on a date to coincide with the next ICAAP Executive Committee meeting in September (as of now, this date is September 21). Ms. Limjucu will notify the committee members as soon as the date and location are determined.

Committee on Infectious Diseases (COID)

Minutes

June 29, 2005

ACTION: Ms. Limjuco will send a reminder to COID members confirming the date, time, and location of the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon Perry Limjuco
Immunization Project Manager