Wisconsin Immunization Registry

You know a lot about your child...

...favorite foods

...how to heal a scratched knee

...how to make everything better.

But, do you know when your child is due for immunizations?

What are the benefits of the Wisconsin Immunization Registry?

The Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR) is a secure computerized data system that tracks the immunizations given to people in Wisconsin. By keeping a record of the immunizations given, health care providers, parents and legal guardians know if and when a child had been given a vaccine. This helps with keeping children up-to-date on all needed vaccines.

- The WIR is easily accessible on the internet at: http://dhfsWIR.org
- For authorized users, it allows immediate access to your child's immunization history.
- If you move within the state or change health care providers, your child's immunizations can be accessed by your new health care provider.

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Parents and legal guardians can now have access to look up their child's immunization record in the WIR. Talk to your child's health care provider about registering for access to the WIR.

The Wisconsin Immunization Registry has several security features built into its system to ensure the confidentiality of the information stored. Public and private health care providers can access the registry only after they have been trained and have signed a confidentiality agreement administered through the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services.

Questions You May Have About Immunizations

I don't know anyone who has had mumps or rubella. Why does my baby need these shots?

You might think that these diseases are not a serious threat today because you don't see or hear much about them. However, they are still around, and if we stop vaccinating against these diseases, many more people will become infected. Vaccinations will keep your child safe from these diseases.

Are Vaccines Safe?

Most vaccines cause only minor side effects, such as soreness where the shot was given or a slight fever. These side effects do not last long and are treatable. Serious reactions are very rare. Remember, if your child gets a disease that could have been prevented with a vaccine, the risks of the disease are much greater than the risk of a vaccine reaction. Talk to your health care provider if you have concerns.

Preventing Disease Through Immunization

A top priority of the Wisconsin Immunization Program is the reduction and / or elimination of the number of vaccine-preventable diseases that affect children in our state. Children under two years old are especially vulnerable to vaccine-preventable diseases and should receive most of their vaccinations prior to their second birthday. The appropriate use of immunizations is one way we can keep everyone in Wisconsin safer and healthier.

Many children in Wisconsin receive immunizations from more than one provider. Without access to a child's immunization information, it can be difficult to know which vaccine a child needs at any particular time. This can cause lapses in immunization, or unnecessary repeat immunizations. The WIR, created and maintained by the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, provides a quick and easy solution to the problem.

The Wisconsin Immunization Registry electronically stores a child's immunization record in a secure system. Health care providers can access the information to determine which, if any, immunizations are due at any given time. Parents and legal guardians can also access this information via the internet. Speak to your child's health care provider about how to register to access the immunization record of your child.

If you have questions about the Wisconsin Immunization Registry, speak to your health care provider or you may visit:

http://dhfsWIR.org

or

http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/immunization

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