

AIRA MONTHLY UPDATE

APRIL 2017 IN REVIEW

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AIRA 2017 NATIONAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



Over 400 attendees participated in the [AIRA 2017 National Meeting](#) in Chicago to make it our best-attended meeting yet! The meeting began with an inspiring keynote presentation from Dr. Nancy Messonnier, the Director of the National

Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD). Dr. Messonnier provided a vision for IIS and a framework for how to build upon IIS successes and address challenges. Dr. Messonnier encouraged the IIS community to focus on the areas where they can make the greatest impact, including childhood data, clinical decision support, coverage assessment and bidirectional exchange. Her inspirational keynote provided guidance for all IIS on where to focus their efforts to ensure sustainability.



MAY AT AIRA

- May 1st, 1 – 2 pm ET: **Interjurisdictional Community of Practice Meeting**
- May 5th, 1 – 2 pm ET: **Joint Development & Implementation Advisory Workgroup Meeting**
- Canceled: May 2nd, 2 – 3pm ET: **Assessment Steering Committee Meeting**
- May 11th, 2 – 3 pm ET: **HL7 Immunization User Group**
- May 15th, 2 – 3 pm ET: **AIRA Board, Partner & Membership Meeting**
- May 15th, 3 – 4 pm ET: **AIRA Board Meeting**
- May 17th, 1 – 2 pm ET: **Education Steering Committee Meeting**
- Rescheduled: May 17th, 1 – 2 pm ET: **Standards & Interoperability Steering Committee Meeting**
- May 17th, 3 – 4 pm ET: **Awardee-Developed Joint Development & Implementation User Group Meeting**
- May 18th, 4 – 5 pm ET: **MIROW Meeting**
- May 22nd, 4-5pm ET: **IIS Discovery Session**
- May 24th, 1 – 2 pm ET: **SISC Technical Workgroup Meeting**

Dr. Zubin Damania (ZDog MD) energized the crowd with hilarious anecdotes that hit upon wider challenges facing our healthcare system, public health and IIS. He shared stories about his upbringing and how he used his unique experiences to build a successful patient-focused holistic healthcare entity, Turntable Health. Attendees were encouraged to reflect upon ways they could positively impact their own spheres of influence professionally within the IIS community. His keynote began the National Meeting with a surge of energy and humor.



This year's National Meeting featured never-before offered sessions, including a Convene by Region breakout session where attendees were provided the opportunity to network within their geographic region, and a live AIRA gameshow that highlighted AIRA's recent products and activities. Interactive sessions allowed participants to discuss a variety of topics including

programmatic and technical solutions, standards, and best practices. More targeted topics such as Meaningful Use, MIPs and MACRA were discussed in small group roundtables and in other ways throughout the meeting. The National Meeting featured incredible content and [presentations](#) from a variety of IIS, immunization programs, implementers and other partners who provided different perspectives and solutions for the critical issues facing IIS. Thank you to all our volunteers, [sponsors](#), presenters, moderators and participants for making the AIRA 2017 National Meeting a tremendous success!



AIRA NATIONAL MEETING PRESENTATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

We hope everyone who attended the AIRA 2017 National Meeting in Chicago thoroughly enjoyed the meeting! The AIRA 2017 National Meeting presentations are now posted on [AIRA's website](#). We hope you'll use these presentations as a refresher for the great content or



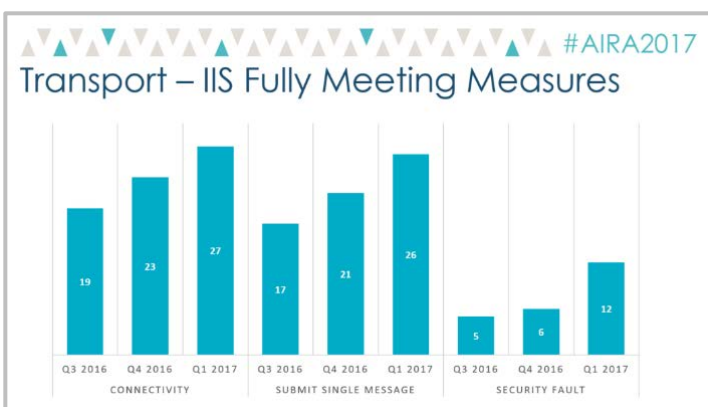
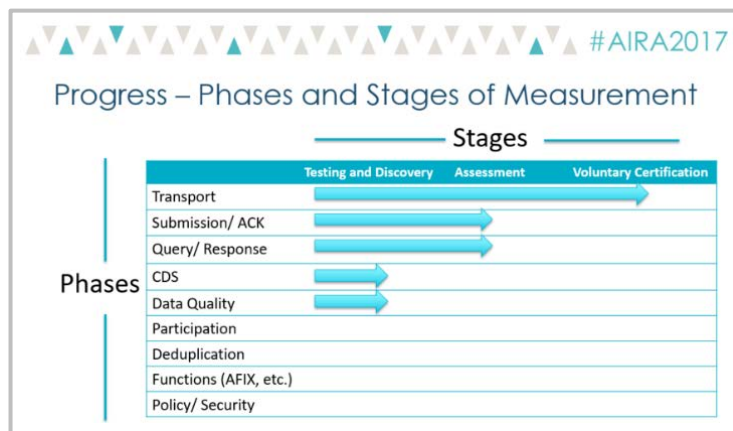
as a resource for those who weren't able to attend the meeting. AIRA saw a gigantic increase in attendance this year – from 350 meeting attendees in 2016 to over 400 attendees at this year's meeting in Chicago! We're glad so many of you could join us for meaningful discussions and stellar content as we continue to promote the development, implementation and interoperability of IIS.

IIS MEASUREMENT AND IMPROVEMENT: A RECAP OF THE AIRA 2017 PLENARY SESSION

Many AIRA members attended the AIRA 2017 National Meeting in Chicago last month, but for those members unable to attend, we'd like to hit the highlights of a presentation on [IIS Measurement and Improvement](#). Aaron Bieringer, the Interoperability and Technical Lead for Minnesota and the Co-Chair of MACAW (the Measurement for Assessment and Certification Advisory Workgroup) presented on this project in the plenary session on Wednesday afternoon.

The Measurement and Improvement effort has been underway since 2015. The standards-based measures are developed by representatives from across the community who make up MACAW, and are also informed by the full IIS community and approved by the AIRA Board of Directors.

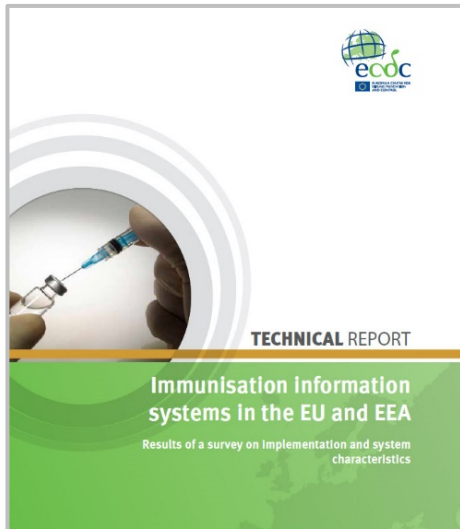
Measures for transport, submission/acknowledgement, and query/response have been fully developed and implemented, while measures for clinical decision support and data quality are in development. Data on how IIS performed for all measures are available through the Aggregate Analysis Reporting Tool, or AART. The community is already seeing improvements on the measures that are available. In the transport phase, for which AIRA has conducted baseline and two re-measurement periods, we are seeing both broader engagement from IIS programs, as well as increases in the number of IIS meeting the measures.



Aaron also introduced the concept of phased Voluntary Certification for 2018, where IIS programs who are meeting standards could participate to be recognized for their achievements. The Voluntary Certification program would be the next step in the same phased process, following "Testing and Discovery" and "IIS Assessment" as another stage of measurement. The defining difference

would be that the list of IIS certified under the Voluntary Certification program would be publicly available. MACAW would like to roll out Voluntary Certification in late 2017 for the transport phase of measurement, and certified IIS would then be recognized in 2018. All testing would be completed by the AIRA staff under a cooperative agreement with CDC, and there would not be direct costs to IIS or immunization programs to participate. For more information on this initiative, please contact Mary Beth Kurilo at mbkurilo@immregistries.org.

INTERNATIONAL UPDATE: GLOBAL IIS INITIATIVES



The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) is currently conducting activities to support the Member States in establishing IIS. One important initial activity was to gather information about the implementation level and the functionalities of existing immunization information systems in European Union/European Economic Area (EU/EEA) countries. To do this, ECDC, in close collaboration with subject-matter experts, developed surveys on IIS status and functionalities in EU/EEA countries. A link to the survey of IIS status and functionalities can be found [here](#).

As was mentioned during the [closing plenary](#) of the National Meeting, a special edition of Eurosurveillance focused on IIS was published on April 27th. For access to the special edition please visit the [ECDC website](#).

AIRA 2017 AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED IN CHICAGO

CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS

AIRA awarded three organizations the AIRA Centers of Excellence awards at the AIRA 2017 National Meeting: Illinois, Louisiana and North Dakota.



The **Illinois Comprehensive Automated Immunization Registry Exchange (I-CARE)** was awarded the 1st place Centers of Excellence award for an innovative approach to reducing duplicate records in their IIS.



The **Louisiana Immunization Network for Kids Statewide (LINKS)** tied for 2nd place and received an award for their collaboration with stakeholders such as the State Board of Pharmacy, the state American Academy of Pediatrics chapter and Medicaid to show the value of the IIS and increase provider participation.



The **North Dakota Department of Health** also received a 2nd place award for their innovative approach to using the VTrackS system. Congratulations to each winner!

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

AIRA honored Rob Savage and Amy Metroka with Lifetime Achievement Awards at the AIRA National Meeting. **Rob Savage** was recognized for providing over 20 years of IIS support and being an instrumental leader in the areas of standards development, implementation, community guideline development and software implementation. **Amy Metroka** was recognized for over 20 years of involvement in the IIS community, including her efforts to create AIRA and her service to the AIRA Board of Directors. Congratulations Rob and Amy!

VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARDS

AIRA recognized four recipients of the AIRA 2017 Volunteer Service Awards at the recent AIRA National Meeting. **Aaron Bieringer** from Minnesota was honored for his volunteerism in various



projects including the Data Quality Assurance project and the Measurement for Assessment and Certification Advisory Workgroup (MACAW). **Therese Hoyle** was nominated for this award for the tremendous support she has provided the New Hampshire team through their IIS request for proposals process and implementation. **Michael Flynn** from New York State received this award for his long-standing involvement, history with and knowledge of the IIS community and the valuable perspective he brings. **Kevin Snow** with Envision Technology Partners, Inc. received this award for his significant contributions in technical

standards through the HL7 immunization user group, Standards and Interoperability Steering Committee (SISC), the Functional Guide Workgroup, and MACAW. We appreciate all our volunteers who work tirelessly on behalf of AIRA and the IIS community.

APRIL RECAP

Assessment Steering Committee

- The Assessment Steering Committee (ASC) meeting was canceled for the month of April. AIRA sent out a survey to assess the committee's thoughts on moving the meetings to a quarterly basis, and the votes unanimously approved the proposal. AIRA plans to take this recommendation to the AIRA Executive Committee for approval.

Standards and Interoperability Steering Committee

- Due to a scheduling conflict with the AIRA 2017 National Meeting, the Standards and Interoperability Steering Committee (SISC) had a combined meeting with the SISC Technical Workgroup on April 26th. The committee discussed the possibility of standardizing the error codes which could make it easier for any submitting system to understand when the data sent caused an issue and how to fix it.

Education Steering Committee

- The Education Steering Committee (ESC) met on April 19th and reviewed the evaluation responses from the AIRA 2017 National Meeting. Attendees were asked to list any standout presentations in the evaluations and the ESC began planning future webinars based on these suggestions. Committee members also brainstormed ideas for the next edition of SnapShots.

MIROW Steering Committee

- The MIROW Steering Committee met on April 20th to review feedback from the MIROW workshop held at the AIRA 2017 National Meeting and to continue to plan for an in-person strategic planning meeting for the summer. Forty-six attendees (including MIROW members) participated in the MIROW workshop and identified approximately 100 ideas for MIROW topics. MIROW will review these topics in more detail to determine which of them has already been developed and which ones can be developed into new best practice recommendations. A turn-around-document has been drafted and will be emailed out to workshop participants once finalized. The current topic, consolidating records, is still underway and will be in progress until summer 2017.
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