

Jab & Gab

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
IMMUNIZATION UNIT
MARCH 2024

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Up First

WYOMING IMMUNIZATION CONFERENCE

June 25-27, 2024
Laramie



Registration is now open for attendees, sponsors, and exhibitors at the Wyoming Immunization Conference, June 25-27 in Laramie. Highlights include a meningitis survivor story, the latest clinical recommendations, and a listening session for school and child care partners. [Visit our website](#) for more information. *Continuing education for this activity is pending. See the final announcement for details.*

Register for the
Conference

Welcome Alaina Blakely and Tisha Cohick



The Immunization Unit would like to welcome Administrative Assistant Alaina Blakely. A lifelong Cheyenne resident, Blakely graduated from East High School and attended Laramie County Community College and the University of Wyoming.

For the past 23 years, Blakely worked at Montessori School of Cheyenne, where she was a classroom teacher and the assistant director. She earned her master's in human services from Walden University in 2018.

As administrative assistant, Blakely will be the first point of contact for the Immunization Unit. She is looking forward to learning more about immunizations and the Wyoming Department of Health.

"We have a great team and great partners," Blakely said. "Everyone is dedicated to helping their community."

Blakely is married and has two wonderful children. She is an animal lover and enjoys golf, running, and reading; just not all at the same time.



The Immunization Unit would like to welcome COVID-19 Project Coordinator Tisha Cohick to the team. As a project coordinator, Cohick will work directly with county health departments and the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho tribes to increase education and awareness of vaccines.

“I just love the idea that we can help underserved populations live healthier lives,” Cohick said.

Cohick moved to Cheyenne as a child and earned her associate degree in business administration at Laramie County Community College. She is currently studying organizational leadership at Colorado State University. In her spare time she enjoys hiking and spending time with her wife, Amy. She also loves to spend time with her large extended family, who live all around Cheyenne and the Front Range.



Three new quick reference guides available now

Immunization Unit staff

The Immunization Unit is updating quick reference guides to give providers a quick and easy guide for processes such as data entry and vaccine ordering. Quick reference guides are added to the website as soon as they are updated.

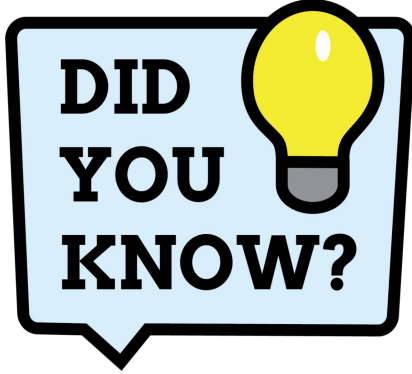
The following guides are now updated and available for download on the Training Library web page:

- [Opt-Out Quick Reference Guide \(pdf\)](#)
 - [Rescind Opt-Out Quick Reference Guide \(pdf\)](#)
 - [Reporting Duplicate Records Quick Reference Guide \(pdf\)](#)
-

Wyoming Immunization Registry

One WyIR user, multiple facilities

Wyoming Immunization Registry (WyIR) users who work at multiple facilities need



to request WylR access for each location.

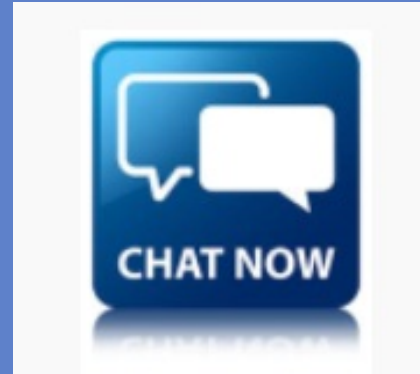
To request access, a facility contact, vaccine coordinator for the facility, or responsible authority for the organization needs to complete the [WylR User Access Request form](#) on behalf of the person being requested as an authorized user. Once the form is submitted, the WylR Help Desk will send an email to an authorized user with more information or

follow up with the appropriate contact to approve access.

WyIR Help Desk

The Wyoming Immunization Registry (WylR) Help Desk is the first point of contact for WylR concerns including; user access, password resets, inventory concerns, reconciliation, reports, patient merges and deduplication, forecast, and more.

The Help Desk team responds to most issues within 48 business hours. Issues that cannot be resolved by the Help Desk are escalated to the Immunization Unit via a central email, which is monitored by Immunization Unit staff.



The Help Desk can be reached at 1-833-221-1451, wylr.helpdesk@wyo.gov, or the chat feature in the bottom left corner of the WylR home page.

For questions about the Docket application, email docket.helpdesk@wyo.gov or call 307-777-7952.



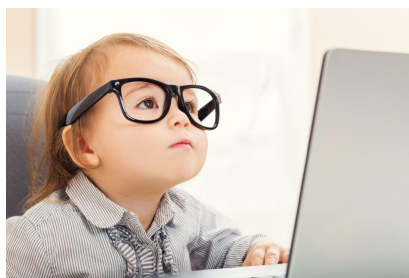
Currently accepting new connections!

The Wyoming Immunization Registry (WyIR) offers seamless vaccine reporting through your facility's electronic health record system. Begin the WyIR interface connection onboarding process today by visiting the Wyoming Department of Health Immunization Unit's [website](#), or by contacting the WyIR Helpdesk at 1-833-221-1451 or wyr.helpdesk@wyo.gov.



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Training



Vaccinate Your Family offers free training

Kelly Douglas, Health Communication Specialist

Vaccinate Your Family is offering free online courses for community health workers to learn how to encourage vaccination in their communities. Find more information and register [at this link](#).

Resources



New Hiberix presentation coming soon

Heidi Gurov, RN - Nurse Consultant

GSK will soon be supplying Hiberix in a new presentation.

Currently Hiberix is supplied in a “vial and vial” presentation consisting of a vial of lyophilized antigen component and vial of sterile saline diluent. The new presentation will consist of a vial of lyophilized antigen component and prefilled syringe of sterile saline diluent.

[Find the Hiberix package insert at this link.](#)

New and updated Immunization Unit policies

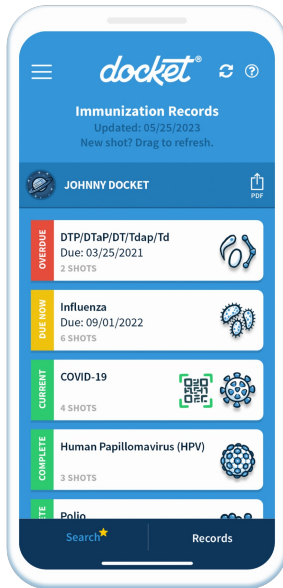
Janice Carney, Immunization Registry Records and Data Manager

The Immunization Unit has recently updated and implemented Immunization Unit immunization information system (IIS) policies. These policies affect all Wyoming Immunization Registry (WyIR) users.

- The IIS: Authorized User Policy (IMM-003), which was made effective on November 1, 2017, has now been updated with a modified date of February 6, 2024.
- The IIS: Audits Policy (IMM-007) is a newly implemented policy effective February 21, 2024. This policy establishes the process by which the Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) Immunization Unit may audit a WyIR user's access in the Immunization Information System (IIS).
- The IIS Security Incidents: Penalties and Remedies Policy (IMM-008) is a newly implemented policy effective February 21, 2024. This policy establishes the penalties and remedies for unauthorized use of the WDH IIS by authorized users.

These policies can be found on the [Immunization Unit website](#).

For questions or concerns regarding policy updates or implementation

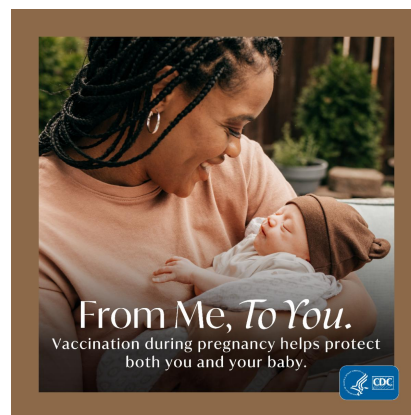


Immunize.org will discontinue some immunization record cards, WDH recommends patients use the Docket app

From Immunization Unit staff and Immunize.org

Immunize.org has announced that it will discontinue Child and Teen, and Lifetime immunization record cards. The organization will continue to offer Adult immunization record cards. Cards are available on the [Shop Immunize.org website](https://www.immunize.org/shop).

The Immunization Unit recommends that patients download the Docket application to access their or their child's immunization records. Docket offers a downloadable pdf showing proof of vaccinations. This pdf is considered an Official Record of Immunization and can be used for things such as school and child care entry. In addition, Docket utilizes SMART Health Card QR codes for proof of COVID-19 vaccination where SMART Health Card QR codes are accepted. Find information about Docket and other ways to access health records on the [Immunization Unit website](https://www.immunizationunit.wyo.gov).



Communication tools

Immunization Unit staff and Immunize.org

COVID-19 resources

- COVID-19 Bridge Access Program providers are now listed on the Immunization Unit website. While many Bridge Access Program providers are searchable at [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov), the Immunization Unit added more providers to the "Find a Vaccine

Provider” map on the website. [See the map here.](#)

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released customizable designs for events or promotions for the Bridge Access Program for the COVID-19 vaccine. Add your logo or details as needed. English and Spanish social media posts are also available. Find the materials on the [CDC website here.](#)

General handouts for adults from Immunize.org

- [Adult Immunization: Importance of Staying Up to Date with Vaccines](#): now includes the protection of infants through either RSV vaccination during pregnancy or RSV preventive antibody after birth for the infant.
- [Vaccinations for Adults: You’re Never Too Old to Get Vaccinated!](#) is updated to include vaccinations for RSV and mpox, as well as use of MenABCWY as an option for adults needing both MenACWY and MenB.



Vaccine data

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention updated its VaxView dashboards to include national immunization registry data on influenza and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). The VaxView dashboards also include immunization data for children, schools, teens, adults, and COVID-19. Find the VaxView information at these links: [VaxView websites menu](#), [RSV VaxView Weekly RSV Vaccination Dashboard](#).
- Immunize.org added [State Vaccine-Specific Requirements](#) and [State Exemptions](#) pages to their website. Requirement information was collected from state immunization program managers in March 2023.

Health observances calendar

March 4	<i>International HPV Awareness Day</i>
March 10-16	<i>Patient Safety Awareness Week, Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week</i>
March 24	<i>World TB Day</i>

Contributors

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Immunize.org
- Wyoming Department of Health Immunization Unit staff

Questions or comments? Email the editor at kelly.douglas@wyo.gov.

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Wyoming Department of Health Immunization Unit | 122 West 25th Street, 3rd Floor West,
Cheyenne, WY 82002

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