

# Update

Immunization Consultant/Advisor

US Affiliated Pacific Islands

# Objectives/Activities Planned for 2007

## 1. Island Wide Immunization Coverage Survey

\*CNMI - 2005

\*FSM (Pohnpei, Kosrae, Yap, Chuuk) - 2006

\*Puerto Rico - 2006

\*Palau – 2007 (February)

\*Guam – 2007 (May/June)

\*US Virgin Islands – 2007 (July)

\*Marshall Islands – 2007 (September)

\*\* CNMI – 2007 (October)

\*American Samoa – 2007 (November)

- The coverage survey assesses three sources of immunization documentation

- Handheld copy by the parent(s)

- Medical Chart of the child

- Electronic database (Casa, Access, MUMPS, Foxpro, etc.)

## 2. Pacific Island Immunization Registry – WebIZ

-> Purchased in 2006 for all 6 jurisdictions

\* First Phase – Training and Implementation on Guam, Pohnpei and CNMI

\* Second Phase – Implementation in American Samoa, Marshall Islands (Palau still reviewing the software)

### 3. HPV (Human Papillomavirus) Vaccine Pilot Project

- Requesting the Pharmaceutical company to donate HPV Vaccine to the three Independent nations (Republic of Palau, Federated States of Micronesia and Republic of the Marshall Islands)
- Limited funds given to the three nations for vaccine purchase
- We will submit a proposal to the Pharmaceutical company via CDC
- We are requesting letters of support from PIHOA and each of the independent nations
- It will be a three year phased project

## Three Year Schedule

	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
2007	Shot					Shot	Shot
2008	Shot	XX			Shot	Shot	XX
2009	Shot	XX	XX	Shot	Shot	XX	XX
2010	Shot	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX

XX = Shots already administered  
to that cohort in previous years

## 4. Hepatitis B Assessment

- Conducting a Hepatitis B assessment for all islands
- Determine where islands are at in their Hepatitis B Programs
- Work with the Hepatitis Branch at CDC to help programs needing assistance
  - Provide training for staff
  - Develop clear programmatic objectives
  - Develop a fully sustainable Hepatitis B Program in each of the islands dealing with both infants and adults

## 5. Immunization Handbook/Protocol Update

- Working with all Immunization Programs on whether their Immunization Handbook/Protocol is up to date with the most current vaccines they are utilizing
  - American Samoa and Guam will be updating their protocol based on the new vaccines introduced
  - CNMI is updating their protocol to include more information in the handbook (shot administration, cold chain management, etc.)
  - Assisting the Marshall Islands in transitioning their protocol to an immunization handbook like the one utilized by FSM

## 6. Completion of Measles Elimination Plan and Pandemic Influenza Plan

- Working with the Immunization Programs to complete their Measles Elimination Plan
- Determining the extent of involvement of the Immunization Program in the development of the Pandemic Influenza Plan and its completion

## 7. Address surveillance needs for all vaccine preventable disease's (VPDs) in the islands

- Train immunization program staff to be actively involved in the surveillance of vaccine preventable disease's (VPDs)
- Develop capacity to utilize surveillance data to act on suspected VPDs; how to perform case investigations and contact tracing

## 8. Develop an Outbreak Response Kit

- Develop an Outbreak Response Kit for all vaccine preventable diseases (VPDs) for the islands
- Insure all staff are well versed
- Kit will include information on the type of disease, laboratory procedures for specimen collection and testing, media messages, etc.

## 9. Training Opportunities

- Perform an assessment with immunization program managers to determine management skills they would like to be trained on
- Work with program staff to determine what training opportunities they would like
- Looking at establishing some type of certification program for staff in this area to raise standards and possibly utilize these courses towards a degree program

10. Work to have immunization program managers and staff develop a good working relationship with laboratory staff on each island

- Work to understand specimen collection and testing
- Work towards understanding interpretation of laboratory results

11. Utilize current “groups” email to develop a mechanism to provide greater communication opportunities between island jurisdictions to address problems, needs and successes

- Show case immunization program successes within each program as a learning tool for other programs
- Pose questions on problems experienced at the program and receive constructive feedback on how to handle the particular situation
- Request for help in other programmatic needs

12. Continue communication with program managers through email and phone calls to see how they are doing in their programs and what type of help they would need in order to satisfy their Grant Objectives