

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
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Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 1/30/03
Department Name: Public Health
Department No.: 041
Agenda Date: 2/25/03
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Roger E. Heroux, Director
Public Health Department

STAFF CONTACT: Judy Sorce-Bauman, Immunization Program Manager
346-8420

SUBJECT: Central Coast Immunization Registry Agreements

Recommendations:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Authorize the Director of the Public Health Department to execute the attached Standard Agreement with private physicians for use of the Central Coast Immunization Registry for a term beginning March 1, 2003 and ending June 30, 2004.
- B. Authorize the Director of the Public Health Department to execute annual renewals of the Agreements with private physicians provided that the State continues to fully fund the direct costs of the Central Coast Immunization Registry.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendations are primarily aligned with Goal No. 2 Ensure the Public Health and Safety and Provide Essential Infrastructure.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

Immunization information systems have been developed nationally, at both state and county levels, to increase immunization compliance, identify areas of need, and decrease the occurrence of over-immunization. Immunization rates are commonly used as an indicator of the quality of health care that children are receiving.

On August 21, 2001, your Board executed an agreement with the State of California for the Public Health Department to operate a regionalized immunization registry information system with Ventura and San Luis Obispo counties. Since that time the County has operated the Central Coast Immunization Registry (CCIR) in its County Health Clinics and has developed a web version of the registry software for use by private providers.

This Agreement outlines the responsibilities of the private providers and the County in using this web version of the CCIR. This standard Agreement assures that providers who participate in the immunization registry share personal health information for treatment purposes only in compliance with the Health Information Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

Mandates and Service Levels:

The CCIR is a non-mandated project within the mandated immunization program.

Health & Safety Code 120440 authorizes local health officers to operate immunization information systems and to disclose or share certain prescribed immunization-related information concerning individual patients with specific health care providers and service providers.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

There are six County employees (two full time equivalent staff) involved in supporting the CCIR from a technical standpoint and providing Help Desk user support. They occupy approximately 500 square feet of County space.

Because this is an agreement for the health providers to share immunization information, there will be no monetary compensation from providers. However, the Public Health Department does receive funding to participate in the support. The State covers direct costs only. Departmental and County A87 Plan overhead, estimated at \$21,321, is not recoverable. The Public Health Department will continue to use existing General Fund Contribution for these unrecoverable amounts. The Disease Control and Prevention subdivision on Page D-168 will remain unchanged.

This CCIR is budgeted in: Fund 0042, Department 041, Program 1407.

Special Instructions:

Please return a certified copy of the Minute Order to the Department; Attention: Judy Sorce-Bauman

Concurrence:

County Counsel