

## ImmTrac CHANGES – January 1, 2005

Effective January 1, 2005, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) has implemented the legislative mandates of House Bill (HB) 1921. ImmTrac users will notice numerous changes, enhancements, menu options, and new features in the registry application.

Important changes to ImmTrac include:

**Consent at Birth Registration:** DSHS will offer parents of newborn children the opportunity to grant consent for ImmTrac registration, or request exclusion from the registry, during the birth certificate process. If consent is granted, birth data from DSHS Vital Statistics Unit will be imported into ImmTrac to create a child's record within several weeks of birth of the child.

**Verification of Consent:** DSHS is now required to **verify** that parental consent is obtained for **new** ImmTrac clients (clients to be added on or after Jan. 1, 2005). DSHS must also maintain **evidence** of consent for newly added clients. Consent forms may be generated from the ImmTrac application, and must be faxed or mailed to ImmTrac for verification prior to including the child's information in the registry.

**Adding Clients:** ImmTrac users will no longer be able to directly add a new client or create a new client record. Consent forms must be faxed or mailed to ImmTrac to request creation of the new client record.

**Consent Form:** The ImmTrac consent form may now be printed from ImmTrac. Users may print a blank consent form or may elect to print a pre-filled consent form after running ImmTrac *Smart Search*.

**Smart Search:** ImmTrac users now have the option of searching for clients using an advanced matching process. ImmTrac *Smart Search* allows the user to enter additional client demographic information, and utilizes an intelligent matching algorithm to provide a greater chance of finding an existing ImmTrac client. If *Smart Search* does not identify the desired client, the user may elect to print a consent form pre-filled with client name and demographic information to facilitate requesting creation of a new client record.

**Password Change Rules:** In order to increase registry security and ensure the safety and integrity of registry data, ImmTrac logon requires strong passwords and password changes in compliance with DSHS agency guidelines.

**Import Functionality:** Providers and payors with authorization to electronically import data into ImmTrac will benefit from enhanced import capabilities, including the option to electronically retrieve provider and payor import notification files.

**Enhanced ImmTrac-TWICES Interface:** Providers reporting immunization data through TWICES will now see the ImmTrac Client ID# on the TWICES client detail screen if consent for ImmTrac participation has been verified. TWICES users will also view a notice, including instructions to obtain and fax ImmTrac consent, if a client's consent cannot be verified.

**Modified ImmTrac-TMHP Interface:** All Medicaid claims for children's immunizations submitted to TMHP will be reported to ImmTrac. Modifier codes (U6 or NC) are no longer required to indicate parental consent. ImmTrac will verify parental consent prior to inclusion of immunization records in the registry.

**New ImmTrac-HHSC Interface:** Immunizations reported to HHSC from health plan client encounter data will be provided to ImmTrac to facilitate reporting of HMO, Medicaid, and CHIP health plan data.