



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

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COMMISSIONER

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Dear Health Care Provider:

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) has recently implemented House Bill 1921, resulting in enhancements to ImmTrac, the Texas Immunization Registry. House Bill 1921 was adopted by the 78th Legislature to increase provider and client participation in the registry, protect the privacy and confidentiality of registry data, and increase the utility of the registry.

Texas law now states that:

- Health care providers must report to ImmTrac all vaccines administered to a child under 18 years of age, within 30 days of administration.
- DSHS must verify that parental consent has been granted, prior to inclusion of immunization information in the registry, and maintain evidence of consent.
- Providers are no longer required to track and maintain evidence of parental consent.

The enclosed fact sheet, *Implementation of Legislation (House Bill 1921) Regarding ImmTrac*, provides additional information about new legislative requirements.

Recent improvements to ImmTrac have enhanced the utility of the registry, offering you:

- A user-friendly, Internet-based immunization information system, free of charge
- Fast and secure online access to your patients' immunization histories
- Consolidated data from providers, health plans, vital statistics, and public clinics statewide
- Acceptance of data transfers from electronic medical records (EMR) software
- Interpretation of the complex immunization schedule and recommendations of vaccines due
- Generation of *Reminder and Recall* notices and other useful reports
- Ability to prevent over-immunization and missed opportunities to immunize
- Savings in staff time and cost relating to immunization records management

The enclosed *Protect Texas Children* brochure and *Provider Information* fact sheet offer additional information about ImmTrac and how you can easily register for participation, report immunizations, and obtain parental consent when necessary. Please contact ImmTrac Customer Support at (800) 348-9158 or via e-mail at ImmTrac@dshs.state.tx.us for registration information.

ImmTrac is an important component of the State of Texas' strategy to improve vaccine coverage rates. Thank you for your vital role in our efforts to protect Texas children from vaccine preventable diseases.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jack C. Sims".

Jack C. Sims, Manager
Immunization Branch

Enclosures