

Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations

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December 19, 2011

The Honorable Martin O'Malley
Governor
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Peter A. Hammen
Chair
Health and Government Operations Committee
House Office Building, Room 241
6 Bladen St.,
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Joan Carter Conway
Chair
Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 West Wing
11 Bladen St.,
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Governor O'Malley, Delegate Hammen and Senator Conway:

In accordance with §2-1246 of the State Government Article and Health-General Article §18-214(k), the Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations (the Commission) is submitting its annual report to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the Health and Government Operations Committee.

In 2011, the Commission completed the following activities:

- Convened eight public meetings of the full Commission to fulfill the Commission charges of identifying, addressing, and monitoring vaccine shortages and other immunization-related issues.
- On January 25, the Commission established a Legislation Subcommittee to review pending immunization-related legislation and offer the Commission insight and recommendations on the Commission's potential involvement and action. Two pieces of legislation were reviewed by the subcommittee.
- On May 24, the Commission identified two priority areas to address during 2011-2012: increasing participation with the state's immunization registry and delivery of influenza vaccinations. Two

- subcommittees were established to develop goals and objectives for the priority areas.
- On July 1, the Commission wrote a letter to the Maryland Hospital Association urging it to recommend that its members establish protocols that include pertussis vaccination (Tdap) as part of the routine care offered to women immediately after the delivery of a child.
 - On December 13, the Commission established a subcommittee to address low rates of Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination in adolescents
 - Worked with DHMH to develop a communication plan to inform pharmacists on how to register and enroll in ImmuNet, the state's immunization registry.
 - Provided input on immunization-related issues as part of the DHMH-led State Health Improvement Process

This letter shall serve as the Commission's annual report for 2011. If you have any questions, please call Mr. Greg Reed, Program Manager, IDEHA Center for Immunization and lead staff to the Commission at 410-767-6679.

Sincerely,



Jacqueline Dougé
Chair of Commission

cc: Frances Phillips
Heather Hauck
Marie Grant
David Blythe
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Sarah Albert, MSAR # 8248