

## Kentucky Immunization Registry (KYIR)

**Registry Manager:**

Jody Schweitzer, MPH  
Registry Manager  
Kentucky Immunization Program  
275 E. Main Street HS2E-B  
Frankfort, KY 40621  
(502) 564-4478 ext. 4265  
[Jody.Schweitzer@ky.gov](mailto:Jody.Schweitzer@ky.gov)

**Data Contact:**

Jennifer Paulk  
CDC Public Health Advisor  
Kentucky Immunization Program  
275 E. Main Street HS2E-B  
Frankfort, KY 40621  
(502) 564-4778 ext. 4261  
[Jennifer.Paulk@ky.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Paulk@ky.gov)

**KYIR Public Web Site:**

<https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dehp/idb/Pages/kyir.aspx>

### **Source of Information for the Database**

Kentucky Immunization Registry (KYIR) receives immunization and demographic data from CHFS Vital Records, local health departments, private health care providers and hospitals across the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The purpose of the KYIR is to securely share immunization information among health care professionals, assure adequate immunization levels, and avoid unnecessary immunizations. Registry data is used by healthcare professionals to: monitor the immunization status of children and adults; assure compliance with state laws on immunization requirements for individuals; identify geographic areas at high risk due to low immunization rates; and document/assess vaccination coverage during disease outbreaks. The KYIR also has a feature which, based on previous vaccination data, can recommend to providers any vaccinations needed by any child or adult in the system.

In addition to receiving and maintaining this vital data enhancing the welfare of the citizens of the Commonwealth, the KYIT includes a vaccine inventory management system incorporated into the application. This inventory system allows providers to maintain accurate, adequate, and viable vaccines. Utilization of this inventory and ordering process allows the provider to more accurately maintain appropriate doses on hand in order to provide immunization services to the public.

## KYIR

It also ensures that the provider can easily and accurately identify viability of vaccines based on manufacturer expiration dates maintained in the registry inventory module.

### **Description of the Data Collected**

KYIR collects historical and newly administered vaccination data from hospitals, federally qualified health centers, local health departments, rural health clinics, medical clinics, doctors' offices and pharmacies. Patient demographic information is also collected, which may include address, race, sex, ethnicity, and date of birth, parental data, and next of kin for contact regarding vaccination information.

### **Specific Uses of Information**

KYIR serves as a repository for accurate, current, and complete immunization records. This web-based system enables users to accurately assess a patient's immunization status. Continuous enrollment of providers, who actively use the registry on an ongoing basis, will ultimately result in readily accessible and complete immunization health records for all Kentucky residents. Official Immunization Certificates that are valid for school entry can be obtained and printed from KYIR.

### **Strengths of the Data**

The KYIR registry is comprised of, immunization and demographic data being maintained and updated over the life of each patient, from birth to death. Changes in status, such as vaccines administered, address, VFC program status and recommended vaccines to administer are based on the patient record, which begins at birth with their very first vaccination. Vaccination records from any county within the Commonwealth of Kentucky, or from outside the Commonwealth can be entered by health care providers to keep the record of every patient accurate and up to date.

### **Data Limitations and Availability**

Data sharing will be reserved until January 2018. The registry is working with the Kentucky Health Information Exchange and the Department of Education to bring more historical records into KYIR. At this point, only 30% of children in Kentucky have 2 immunizations recorded in KYIR. In order to have meaningful information to share, the data in KYIR needs to be representative of the population.

### **Data Release Policy**

The KYIR web site provides clinical staff with user-friendly access to immunization related data in Kentucky. Due to the sensitive nature of the data and laws designed to protect the individual, fully identified records are subject to a strict confidentiality policy. They are NOT available to the public. Non-patient specific reports may be made available to enrolled providers and possibly to qualified researchers who have submitted a written application to KYIR and have been approved.

### **Data Publications**

Kentucky Immunization Registry information, enrollment forms for providers, and additional program information are available on the web site:  
<https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dehp/idb/Pages/kyir.aspx>

### **Contributing Author**

Jody Schweitzer, MPH, Kentucky Immunization Registry