

What are the cost savings?

Several studies indicate that savings will clearly outweigh the cost of an immunization registry. For every dollar spent, two dollars will be saved, resulting in potential cost offsets in the Bay Area of nearly \$6.5 million. A registry can result in cost savings or cost offsets through a number of areas including:

- Reducing the cost of pulling records manually for school or child care entry and changes in primary care provider.
- Reducing the cost of duplicative immunizations.
- Reducing the cost of pulling records for HEDIS.
- Reducing the cost of participating in the National Immunization Survey.
- Reducing no-show rates by the generation of reminders.
- Avoiding manual generation of immunization records.
- Decreasing the incidence of disease.
- Preventing vaccine wastage through better inventory management.
- Decreasing the incidence of adverse reactions from vaccines.
- Decreasing staff time by reducing the time needed to review medical records for the assessment and documentation of immunization status.

What are the benefits to health care providers?

Beyond the significant benefits directed toward immunized children, their families, and the communities in which they live, the existence of a comprehensive registry offers specific benefits to the providers of immunizations:

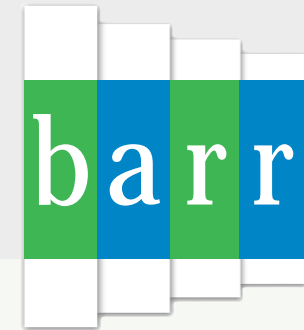
- Prints an accurate, official copy of a patient's immunization history.
- Consolidates immunizations from all providers into one record.
- Provides current recommendations and information on new vaccines, along with changes in vaccine schedules.
- Helps manage vaccine inventories.
- Produce reminders and recalls for immunizations due or overdue.
- Generates coverage reports for your practice quickly and easily.
- Helps monitor adverse reactions to vaccines.
- Reinforces medical home concept.

What are the next steps?

For more detailed information on participating in the Bay Area Regional Immunization Registry, please contact the BARR Help Desk at **1-800-578-7889**



Bay Area Regional
Immunization Registry



Bay Area Regional Immunization Registry

*Fast, confidential
and accurate access
to immunization
status*

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What is the Bay Area Regional Immunization Registry?

The Bay Area Regional Immunization Registry (BARR) is a confidential, computerized information system designed to catalog and provide immediate access to a patient's immunization history. Its purpose is to create a single, population-based data source for all healthcare providers in the region.

Covering a multi-jurisdictional area, BARR was founded on a clear and simple premise: protection against vaccine-preventable disease is a fundamental component of public health and healthier communities. An immunization registry is the best possible strategy for assuring timely and appropriate coverage.

Why is a regional registry needed?

Immunization schedules have become increasingly complex as patients move from area to area within the region and from provider to provider, and record low disease levels don't serve as a reminder to vaccinate. At the same time, studies consistently show that both parents and providers overestimate coverage. The result of this combination of factors is incomplete records, ineffective reminder/recall systems, and the potential to over or under immunize.

Who supports population-based immunization registries?

The recognition that immunization registries are critical in the maintenance of high immunization rates and lower disease levels is endorsed by a broad and growing range of health organizations including: the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Medical Association, the American Osteopathic Association, the Office of the United States Surgeon General, the American Public Health Association, the American Association of Health Plans, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through the CDC's National Immunization Program.

How is the regional registry funded?

The Bay Area Regional Registry is funded by the State of California – Department of Health Services. Additional support funds such as County General Funds and Proposition 10 have been secured by participating jurisdictions for the registry.

What appropriate measures are in place to protect privacy and confidentiality?

BARR protects privacy and confidentiality through a variety of technological and policy safeguards. The regional registry also complies with existing state and federal laws and regulations, including HIPAA, as well as current CDC guidelines and policies.

What is needed to participate?

Participation in the regional registry requires a computer and internet access. BARR representatives assist with:

- Registry training.
- Effective ways to introduce the registry to their patients.
- Ongoing data quality assurance.
- Privacy policy and procedure monitoring.

The time required to enter the data following immunizations is readily offset when compared to the time needed to manually maintain patient immunization records.

Participating BARR Jurisdictions

- Alameda County
- City of Berkeley
- Marin County
- San Benito County
- San Mateo County
- Santa Clara County
- Solano County
- Sonoma County