

DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES



Amendment
To

The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and HIDALGO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT (Contractor) agree to amend the Program Attachment # 001 (Program Attachment) to Contract # 2012-039050 (Contract) in accordance with this Amendment No. 001A : IMMUNIZATION BRANCH - LOCALS, effective 02/08/2012.

The purpose of this Amendment is to revise Exhibit A (Work Plan) to incorporate new federal definition of underinsured.

Therefore, DSHS and Contractor agree as follows:

PROGRAM ATTACHMENT NO. ~~001~~ 001A

Exhibit A is revised as attached.

All other terms and conditions not hereby amended are to remain in full force and effect. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this contract and the terms of this Amendment, this Amendment shall control.

Department of State Health Services

Contractor

Signature of Authorized Official

Signature of Authorized Official

Date: _____

Date: _____

Bob Burnette, C.P.M., CTPM

Name: _____

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IMM/LOCALS
DSHS Contract Number: 2012-039050
HIDALGO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
EXHIBIT A

Contractors are required to perform all activities of the annual Work Plan in compliance with all documents referenced in this Work Plan.

1. PROGRAM PLANNING AND EVALUATION

General Requirement 1A: Implement a comprehensive immunization program. Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments*.

Activities 1A:

- Adhere to *Standards for Child and Adolescent Immunization Practices* and *Standards for Adult Immunization Practices* found at:
<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/downloads/appendices/H/standards-pediatric.pdf> and
<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/downloads/appendices/H/standards-adult.pdf>.
- Maintain current policies in compliance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments* and have them available to Contractor's staff.
- Maintain staffing levels to meet required activities of the contract.
- Lapse no more than 5% of total funded amount of the contract.
- Submit required tri-annual reports by January 30, May 30, and September 30 of each contract term.

2. VACCINE MANAGEMENT

(http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/tvfc/tvfc_manual.shtm)

General Requirement 2A: Ensure that expired, wasted, and unaccounted-for vaccines do not exceed 5% in Contractor's clinics. Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments* and *TVFC Operations Manual*.

Activity 2A:

- Maintain storage and handling policies and procedures according to the *TVFC Operations Manual*.
- Ensure that appropriate Vaccine Management plan is in place at each clinic location and that it includes an updated *Emergency Contingency Plan*.

General Requirement 2B: Assist all other TVFC providers in local jurisdiction with maintaining appropriate vaccine stock levels. Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments* and *TVFC Operations Manual*.

Activities 2B:

- Evaluate maximum vaccine stock levels twice a year in **all** TVFC provider clinics under Contractor's jurisdiction and assess providers' inventories when visiting clinics. This activity will become part of the Electronic Vaccine Inventory (EVI) system and local health departments will be advised if any assistance on this activity is needed.
- Review 100% of all vaccine orders, monthly biological reports, and monthly temperature logs for accuracy and to ensure that the vaccine supply requested is within established guidelines. Review may be done from a paper report or on the EVI system.
- If vaccine is available locally, conduct transfers and/or deliveries to support the TVFC providers requesting assistance.
- Educate and assist all TVFC providers with TVFC Provider Choice, as directed by DSHS
 - To avoid the appearance of impropriety, the LHD must not involve pharmaceutical manufacturer representative in provider choice trainings; or, the LHD must not take any other actions which appear to have a connection between activities sponsored under this contract and any other activities the LHD wishes to conduct on its own which would involve pharmaceutical manufacturer representatives giving presentations to providers.
- Offer provider updates, training and information as changes to vaccine management occurs.

3. REGISTRIES

(<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/providers.shtm> and <http://dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/immtrac/default.shtm>)

General Requirement 3A: Effectively utilize ImmTrac (the DSHS on-line immunization registry) in Contractor's clinics. Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments*.

Activities 3A:

- Search for the client's immunization history at every client encounter.
- Review the client's record for vaccines due and overdue according to the CDC Recommended Schedules at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules/default.htm>.
- Report to ImmTrac all immunizations administered to children (younger than 18 years) and consented adults in Contractor's clinics, either directly into ImmTrac online or through TWICES.
- Update demographic information as needed.
- Follow recommended guidelines for obtaining and submitting ImmTrac consent forms according to the instructions found at http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/docs/consent_guidelines.pdf.
- Implement changes to the consent process as directed by DSHS.
- Offer updated *Immunization History Report* to the client or client's parent or guardian at every client encounter.
- At every client encounter, compare all immunization histories (ImmTrac, TWICES, validated patient-held records, clinic medical record) and enter into ImmTrac or TWICES any historical immunizations not in ImmTrac.

General Requirement 3B: Work in good faith, and as described herein, to increase the

number of children less than six years of age who participate in ImmTrac. Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments*.

Activity 3B:

- Verbally, and with DSHS produced literature, inform parents presenting at Contractor's clinics about ImmTrac and the benefits of inclusion in ImmTrac.

General Requirement 3C: Work in good faith, and as specified herein, to ensure ImmTrac-registered private providers use ImmTrac effectively as defined in the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments*. Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments*.

Activities 3C:

- Provide orientation to all ImmTrac providers at least once a year and maintain documentation of all technical assistance provided (e.g. telephone logs).
- Explain and demonstrate the effective use of ImmTrac according to the instructions located in the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments*.
- Explain guidelines for obtaining and submitting ImmTrac consent forms according to the instructions found at http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/docs/consent_guidelines.pdf.
- Conduct follow-up with registered ImmTrac providers who are inactive or not using ImmTrac effectively.

General Requirement 3D: Ensure that ImmTrac data, entered by Contractor's staff, is complete, current, and accurate. Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments*.

Activities 3D:

- Train Contractor's staff on ImmTrac data entry and quality standards.
- Update all demographic information, including address and telephone number, at every client encounter.

4. PROVIDER QUALITY ASSURANCE

(http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/tvfc/tvfc_manual.shtm)

General Requirement 4: Complete site visit follow-up assigned by DSHS Austin or Health Service Region staff within prescribed timeframes outlined in the *TVFC Operations Manual*. Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments*.

Activities 4:

- Conduct site visit follow-up and submit results following the process described and within deadlines established in the *TVFC Operations Manual*.
- Conduct site visits in 100% of subcontracted entities as listed in the Inter-Local Application and non-Local Health Department WIC immunization clinics, if applicable.

5. PERINATAL HEPATITIS B PREVENTION

(http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/disease/hepatitis/hepatitis_b/perinatal/manual/)

General Requirement 5A: Ensure all pregnant women are screened for hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) and that all HBsAg-positive pregnant women are reported to DSHS. Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments* and *Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Manual*.

Activity 5A:

- Develop a surveillance system that includes prenatal care providers, obstetrical care providers, family practitioners, and labor and delivery facilities to assure all HBsAg-positive pregnant women are reported to DSHS within one week of diagnosis.
- Educate prenatal care providers routinely to screen pregnant women for HBsAg status during each pregnancy, implement procedures for documenting HBsAg screening results in prenatal care records and forward original laboratory results to the delivery facility.
- Educate delivery hospitals to verify prenatal HBsAg test results of pregnant women on admission for delivery and test for HBsAg at delivery.

General Requirement 5B: Ensure that all infants born to HBsAg-positive women and women whose HBsAg status is unknown will receive the first dose of the hepatitis B vaccine and hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG) within 12 hours of birth. Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments* and *Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Manual*.

Activity 5B:

- Assure all labor and delivery facilities develop standing orders and policies to administer the first dose of the hepatitis B vaccine and HBIG to at risk infants within 12 hours of birth
- Identify labor and delivery facilities that do not have standing orders and/or policies and educate providers to establish standing orders and policies to administer to at-risk infants the first dose of the hepatitis B vaccine and HBIG within 12 hours of birth
- Determine the number of newborns that do not receive the first dose of the hepatitis B vaccine and/or the hepatitis B immune globulin and work with those facilities to ensure all at-risk infants receive the hepatitis B vaccine series and hepatitis B immune globulin within 12 hours of birth
- Report to DSHS all infants born to HBsAg (+) women within fifteen (15) calendar days of the event.

General Requirement 5C: Ensure that 100% of the number of identified infants born to HBsAg-positive women will complete the hepatitis B vaccine series and post-vaccination serology (PVS) testing or staff will document appropriately if lost to follow-up. Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments* and *Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Manual*.

Activity 5C:

- Administer or obtain from the provider or IMMTRAC the complete hepatitis B vaccine series. Infants shall complete the hepatitis B vaccine series by 6 – 8 months of age if the infant receives a single antigen or Pediarix vaccine and by 15 months of age if the infant receives the Comvax series.
- Perform PVS testing or obtain from the provider or IMMTRAC PVS testing results to determine immunity against hepatitis B. Post vaccine serology testing shall be done by 9 – 15 months of age if the infant received a single antigen or Pediarix vaccine and by 18 months of age if the infant received the Comvax vaccine series.

General Requirement 5D: All reported HBsAg (+) mothers shall be interviewed and names and locating information of household contacts and sexual partners elicited for serologic testing. Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments* and *Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Manual*.

Activity 5D:

- Household contacts and sexual partners shall be identified for each reported HBsAg(+) mother
- Each identified contact and sexual partner shall be serologically tested to determine susceptibility status

General Requirement 5E: 80% of all susceptible household and sexual contacts to HBsAg-positive women will complete the hepatitis B vaccine series and post vaccine serology testing or staff will document appropriately if lost to follow-up. Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments* and *Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Manual*.

Activity 5E:

- Administer the hepatitis B vaccine series according to the Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule to susceptible household contacts and sexual partner or obtains vaccination data from the provider.
- Administer post vaccine serology testing 1 – 2 months after the last dose of the vaccine series to determine status or obtain PVS results from the provider.

6. EDUCATION, INFORMATION, TRAINING, AND COLLABORATIONS

(<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/providers.shtm>)

General Requirement 6A: Conduct educational, promotional, and outreach activities for the general public to enhance immunization awareness, including distribution of DSHS-provided materials. Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments*.

Activities 6A:

- Contractor will provide vaccine and immunization education to target audiences and to the general public on the benefits of vaccination, the risk of vaccine-preventable

diseases, staying on the ACIP Recommended Immunization Schedule(s) and the importance of not missing any vaccines.

- Inform and educate parents of infants, children, adolescents, adults (men and women), grandparents, seniors, and healthcare providers and the general public about vaccines for all age groups and vaccine-preventable diseases. Information should include the importance and benefits of being fully vaccinated, vaccine recommendations, and the location(s) of community vaccination clinics.
- Conduct at least one monthly immunization education activity targeting one of the target groups.
- Document the activity with the number & type of participants, and evaluate activity by obtaining feedback from participants.
- Use national immunization observances as opportunities to conduct specific education and promotional activities to give emphasis to the importance and benefits of vaccines: National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW), National Immunization Month (NIM), National Adult Immunization Week (NAIW), and National Influenza Week (NIW).
- Develop and implement a written communications and customer service plan to assure customers receive consistent, correct immunization information and services in a courteous and friendly manner on a timely basis.
- Participate in special initiatives as directed by DSHS, such as the Dairy Queen Coupon project, the Hallmark Card Governor's Program, and others.
- Participate in statewide media campaigns by distributing DSHS-developed and produced public service announcements and materials to local television and radio stations, newspapers, parent publications, university newspapers, high school newspapers, and neighborhood newspapers.
- Promote www.ImmunizeTexas.com, the Immunization Branch's website, *The Upshot*, electronic newsletter, and the Vaccine Advisory, vaccine newsletter to providers in the Contractor's jurisdiction.
- Promote and distribute immunization literature for the public to TVFC providers and Contractor's clinics.
- Provide information to clients, families, and the general public on the purpose of ImmTrac, the benefits of ImmTrac participation, and the importance of maintaining a complete immunization history in ImmTrac.
- Inform the general public about the Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) program and the qualifications to participate in it.
- Distribute TVFC information and educational materials at venues where parents of TVFC-eligible children might frequent.
- Inform and highly recommend to the medical community and local providers within the Contractor's jurisdiction on the annual CDC *Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Disease (EPI-VAC)* training.

General Requirement 6B: Educate, inform, and train the medical community and local providers within Contractor's jurisdiction on Immunization activities listed below: Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments*.

Activities 6B:

- Provide training on TVFC requirements and updates (as described in the *TVFC Operations Manual*) to TVFC providers annually at a minimum.
- Ensure that the TVFC providers have the most up-to-date, DSHS-produced

- immunization information in their offices.
- Provide training, information, and technical assistance to promote the effective use of ImmTrac by private providers (which includes education regarding the benefits of ImmTrac participation).
 - Educate private providers about the ImmTrac enrollment process and the statutory requirement to report immunizations.
 - As directed by DSHS identify first responders and their immediate family in the community and inform them of the opportunity to be included in ImmTrac.
 - Conduct educational training for hospital and health care providers within the Contractor's jurisdiction, to increase mandatory screening and reporting of HBsAg-positive women.
 - Provide training on the prevention of Perinatal Hepatitis B to providers within the Contractor's jurisdiction.
 - Educate physicians, laboratories, hospitals, schools, child-care staff, and other health providers on VPD reporting requirements.
 - Educate and update providers on the most current Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations for all age groups, as well as on applicable regulatory vaccination requirements.
 - Provide training relating to *Standards for Child and Adolescent Immunization Practices*, and *Standards for Adult Immunization Practices* (<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/downloads/appendices/H/standards-pediatric.pdf> and <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/downloads/appendices/H/standards-adult.pdf>) to all immunization providers within Contractor's jurisdiction.
 - Inform all private providers on the federal requirement that the most current Vaccine Information Statements (VIS) must be distributed to patients (<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/default.htm>).
 - Promote a health care workforce that is knowledgeable about vaccines, vaccine recommendations, vaccine safety, vaccine-preventable diseases, and the delivery of immunization services.
 - Educate healthcare workers on the need to get themselves vaccinated.
 - Provide information to community health care employers (hospitals, clinics, doctor's offices, long-term care facilities) about the importance of vaccination of health care workers.
 - Educate private providers to send NIS surveys to the Contractor for research prior to returning the survey to CDC, if applicable.
 - Coordinate educational and other activities with local WIC programs to assure that children participating in WIC are screened and referred to their "medical home" for vaccination using a documented immunization history in accordance with the *Standards for Child and Adolescent Immunization Practices* (<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/downloads/appendices/H/standards-pediatric.pdf>).
 - Offer educational opportunities to all WIC programs in the service area, including information about on-line and satellite-broadcast continuing education opportunities from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Continuing Education web site (<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/default.htm>).

General Requirement 6C: Conduct outreach to targeted groups for the promotion of best practices and special activities related to immunizations. Activities under this

requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments*.

Activities 6C:

- Conduct outreach (including, but not limited to, the specific outreach described in the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments*) to families of children 19 to 35 months of age who are not up to date on their immunizations according to ImmTrac; locate additional immunization histories; and enter history data into ImmTrac.
- Collaborate with prenatal health care providers, birth registrars, hospital staff, pediatricians, and other entities to educate parents, expectant parents, and providers about ImmTrac and the benefits of participation. Includes the dissemination of DSHS educational materials as appropriate.
- Identify and contact families of children for whom ImmTrac consent has been granted but who do not have complete immunization records in ImmTrac.

General Requirement 6D: Conduct recruitment to increase the number of ImmTrac providers, TVFC providers, and Perinatal Hepatitis B providers. Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments*.

Activities 6D:

- Conduct recruitment activities as defined in the *TVFC Operations Manual* with providers on the DSHS-supplied provider recruitment list.
- Target adolescent health care providers for recruitment and emphasize adolescent vaccine requirements and recommendations.
- Recruit new private provider sites for ImmTrac.
- Participate with DSHS regional staff in recruitment of hospitals and providers conducting surveillance and reporting of Perinatal Hepatitis B.

General Requirement 6E: Establish collaborative efforts with appropriate community entities regarding promoting immunizations and the reduction of vaccine-preventable diseases. Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments*.

Activities 6E:

- Identify providers, hospitals, schools, child care facilities, social service agencies, and community groups involved in promoting immunizations and reducing vaccine-preventable diseases.
- List and maintain contact information of group members and collaborations and identify the best practices they are promoting.
- Maintain written agreements and updates of group members and collaborations. Document communications, group meetings and planning of activities that promote the Best Practices identified in contract agreement. Documents are to be accessible during site visits.
- Report new group members on the tri-annual report.

7. EPIDEMIOLOGY AND SURVEILLANCE

http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/health/vaccine_preventable_diseases/resources/vpd_guide.pdf

General Requirement 7: Investigate and document at least 90% of reportable suspected vaccine-preventable disease cases within thirty (30) days of notification in accordance with *DSHS Texas Vaccine-Preventable Disease Surveillance Guidelines* (http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/health/vaccine_preventable_diseases/resources/vpd_guide.pdf) and National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NEDSS). Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments*.

Activities 7:

- Adhere to the *DSHS Vaccine-Preventable Disease (VPD) Surveillance Guidelines*, *NEDSS Data Entry Guidelines*, and *Epi Case Criteria Guide* (<https://txnedss.dshs.state.tx.us:8009/PHINDox/UserResources/EpiCaseGuide.pdf>) in conducting this General Requirement and the associated activities.
- Complete all data entry into NEDSS Base System (NBS) following the *NBS Data Entry Guidelines*. (https://txnedss.dshs.state.tx.us:8009/PHINDox/UserResources/Data_Entry_Guidelines_2007.pdf).
- Verify and enter complete vaccination history in NBS on all VPD investigations with case status of confirmed or probable. Complete vaccination history should be assessed through ImmTrac, provider offices, school records, or patient records.
- Routinely review and follow up on all VPD laboratory reports received, including electronic lab reports (ELRs) sent from DSHS through NBS and Health Alert Network (HAN).
- Report on steps taken by Contractor to ensure the completeness of VPD reporting within Contractor's jurisdiction on triannual reports.
- All new VPD surveillance staff will attend Introduction to NBS training and complete the certification process in order to gain access to the NBS system.

8. POPULATION ASSESSMENT

(*Immunization Population Assessment Manual* available on line at http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/docs/school/2010-2011_PopulationAssessmentManual.pdf (Reference Stock No. 11-12550, Revised 09/10)

General Requirement/Activity 8A: When assigned by DSHS, complete 100% of child-care facility and Head Start center assessments and child care audits. Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments* and *Population Assessment Manual*.

General Requirement/Activity 8B: When assigned by DSHS, complete 100% of public and private school assessments, retrospective surveys, and validation surveys. Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments* and *Population Assessment Manual*.

9. SERVICE DELIVERY

General Requirement 9: Provide immunization services and ACIP-recommended vaccines in Contractor's clinics to children, adolescents and adults to maximize vaccine coverage levels within Contractor's jurisdiction. Activities under this requirement shall be conducted in accordance with the *DSHS Immunization Contractors Guide for Local Health Departments*.

Activities 9:

- Ensure that all ACIP-recommended vaccines are routinely available to eligible TVFC patients and that Adult Safety Net vaccines are available to eligible adult patients, who want them.
- Recommend the simultaneous administration of all needed vaccines for the patient.
- Follow only medically supportable contraindications to vaccination.
- Verbally educate patients and parents/guardians about the benefits and risks of vaccination, and distribute DSHS educational materials as applicable as part of this conversation.
- Discuss, and attempt to schedule, the next immunization visit at each client encounter.
- Explain the benefits of a "medical home" and assist the parent/guardian in obtaining or identifying the child's medical home.
- Use a Reminder/Recall system (manual, TWICES, ImmTrac, or other system).
- Establish "standing orders" for vaccination in Contractor's clinics, consistent with legal requirements for standing order (including, but not limited to, those found in the Texas Medical Practice Act).
- Implement an employee immunization policy according to CDC recommendations in Contractor's clinics.