

# **Immunization Registry Notice to Patients and Parents**

Immunizations or 'shots' prevent serious diseases. Tuberculosis (TB) screening tests help to determine if you may have TB infection and can be required for school or work. Keeping track of shots/TB tests you have received can be hard. It's especially hard if more than one healthcare provider gave them. Today, healthcare providers use a secure computer system called an immunization registry to keep track of shots and TB tests. If you change providers, your new provider can use the registry to see the shot/TB test record.

#### **How Does a Registry Help You?**

- Keeps track of all shots and TB tests (skin tests/chest x-rays), so you don't miss any or get too many
- Sends reminders when you or your child need shots
- Gives you access to your digital vaccine record at myvaccinerecord.cdph.ca.gov. Records can be used for childcare, school, or work.

#### **How Does a Registry Help Your Health Care Team?**

Doctors, nurses, health plans, and public health agencies use the registry to:

- See which shots/TB tests are needed
- Remind you about shots needed

- Prevent disease in your community
- Help with record-keeping

#### **Can Schools or Other Programs See the Registry?**

Yes, but this is limited. Schools, child care, and other agencies allowed under California law may:

- See which shots/TB tests children in their programs need
- Make sure children have all shots/TB tests needed to start childcare or school

#### What Information Can Be Shared in a Registry?

- Patient's name, sex, race/ethnicity, and birth date
- Parents' or guardians' names

- Limited information to identify patients
- Details about a patient's shots/TB tests or medical exemptions

What's entered in the registry is treated like other private medical information. Misuse of the registry can be punished by law. Under California law, only healthcare provider offices, health plans, or public health departments may see your address and phone number. Health officials can also look at the registry to protect public health.

### **Patient and Parent Rights**

It's your legal right to ask your provider:

- To prevent non-clinical CAIR sites from accessing your (or your child's) registry records
- Not to get shot appointment reminders from your provider's office
- To look at a copy of your or your child's shot/TB test records
- Who has seen the records and to correct any mistakes

## If you want to limit who sees your or your child's records:

If you do not want your provider's office to share your immunization/TB test information with non-clinical CAIR sites, ask your provider to lock your records in CAIR. You may also complete a "Request to Lock My CAIR Record" form from the CAIR website (bit.ly/CAIRforms). If you change your mind, complete a "Request to Unlock my CAIR Record" form.

For more information, contact the CAIR Help Desk at 800-578-7889 or CAIRHelpDesk@cdph.ca.gov