



Information On the I-CARE Registry

What is I-CARE?

The Illinois Comprehensive Automated Immunization Registry Exchange (I-CARE) is an immunization registry developed and managed by the Illinois Department of Public Health. Immunization registries are utilized by every state and provide a confidential computerized system to store necessary immunization records and provide immediate access to a patient's immunization status.

- Only authorized health care providers are allowed to search and update the immunization records of Illinois residents in I-CARE.
- The I-CARE registry has the ability to update immunization information, relieve parents of the burden of manually tracking their child's immunization records, print school physical forms, remind parents/patients when their immunizations are due and print a complete immunization record for patients to keep.

Why is I-CARE important for patients?

I-CARE makes managing your health records/information easier for you and your doctor. I-CARE:

- Keeps your immunization information continually updated
- Preserves immunization records if you change health care providers, move and lose paper records, or lose vital records in the event of an unexpected natural disaster
- Provides a copy of your immunization record when needed
- Sends reminders to let you know when you are due for an immunization
- Prevents your child from getting unnecessary or extra immunizations

How secure and private is the information in the I-CARE registry?

All information in I-CARE is confidential.

- The registry only collects information necessary information to identify a patient and track his/her immunization history.
- Access to the information in the registry is limited to authorized health care providers.

What is this "Opt Out of Registry Form"?

If an individual, parent or legal guardian does not want their immunization information saved in the I-CARE registry, they may fill out the following "Opt Out of Registry Form". Opting out of the registry will *require* patients to maintain and safeguard their own immunization records. Choosing to opt out of the registry will make it more challenging for your health care provider to remind you of upcoming and overdue immunizations.

I-CARE stores the information on the immunizations received, and calculates the immunizations needed to stay healthy and remain protected from vaccine-preventable diseases.