



How to Join the Minnesota Immunization Information Connection

What is the Minnesota Immunization Information Connection?

MIIC will give you immediate access to the most complete immunization records available in Minnesota. MIIC also provides clinical decision support on what vaccines are due when, based on the patient's age and vaccine history.

Now That I Know What MIIC is Why Should I Join?

As a MIIC user, you will receive ongoing support from your regional immunization registry staff. This includes an initial orientation and training for your key staff, as well as ongoing help desk support. In turn, you are asked to ensure that the data you submit is complete, accurate, and timely. The up-front staff time is offset many times over in reduced chart pulls, phone calls, and other efforts to locate or send immunization histories.

How do I get Started with MIIC?

First, set up an initial meeting with your regional registry staff. Second, before your meeting, identify up to three key staff who will manage login names and passwords, train and support other users, and manage vaccine inventory in MIIC (if desired).

See below for more information on the technical specifications needed to use MIIC.

How Does MIIC Work?

New or historical immunization data can be submitted in a number of ways, including direct entry to MIIC through the Internet, or a file export from your billing or practice management system. Check with your regional registry staff for specifics on these and other data submission methods.

You can securely retrieve an immunization record on the Internet through MIIC, or send a phone or fax request to your regional registry staff.

Privacy

MIIC has numerous high-level security features, including password protection for all users, Secure Socket Layers, and 128-bit encryption. The only users allowed access to MIIC data are those specified in the Immunization Data Sharing Law (Minn. Stat. §144.3351).

Patients can decide to not participate in MIIC, just as they can decide to not be immunized. MIIC is exempt from HIPAA's privacy regulations, since it is disclosure of health information to public health.

System Requirements

Since MIIC is a Web-based application, you will need reliable Internet access, preferably with a dedicated connection. A modem connection will also work, but will perform



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more slowly. MIIC does not recommend using modem access over a cellular phone. This type of connection is expensive and too unreliable to support a Web application.

The following are minimum hardware requirements for using MIIC:

- Pentium 100 MHz computer (500 MHz or higher recommended)
- 32 MB RAM (64 MB or higher recommended)
- 500 MB free disk space
- Screen display set at a minimum of 800 x 600 resolution (1024 x 768 recommended) and 256 colors
- Mouse

The software requirements for MIIC are:

- Internet Browser software: Microsoft® Internet Explorer, version 5.0 or higher, is strongly recommended (Internet Explorer version 4.0 will work, provided it is equipped with all security upgrades). Netscape® version 6.0 is also compatible for use with MIIC
- Windows® 95, 98, Millennium Edition, 2000, XP, or NT
- Adobe® Acrobat® Reader 4.01 or higher

For networked computers, port 443 of the network firewall must be open for outgoing HTTPS (secure HTTP). To verify, try typing the MIIC web address on your Internet browser: <http://miic.health.state.mn.us>. If you are unable to access the site, contact your network administrator.