



NEWS Spring 2001



We help you call the shots!

• • • • • Citywide Immunization Registry, New York City Department of Health • • • • •
Rudolph W. Giuliani, Mayor Neal L. Cohen, M.D., Commissioner

Queens Comprehensive Perinatal Council, Inc./ Downstate New York Healthy Start

As a program designed to reduce infant mortality, the Queens Comprehensive Perinatal Council, Inc. (QCPC)/Downstate New York Healthy Start (DNYHS) recognizes the value of immunization in disease prevention and has a clear need for an immunization registry.

QCPC/DNYHS is a federally funded initiative created to reduce infant mortality in the South Jamaica and Rockaway Beach/Hamel communities. The dedicated staff is determined in their efforts to reach out and recruit clients within the community to help at-risk children and their families receive the health and social support

services they need.

Whenever a child comes in without a record, they automatically contact the CIR to look up the child's immunization history. The staff then works intensively with these children and their families, to ensure that the children receive all of the recommended immunizations.

The CIR is pleased to be able to assist programs like QCPC/DNYHS, but we cannot do it without the help of health care providers.

Every complete immunization record the CIR is able to provide to Healthy Start helps ensure the health of the children they serve. Please help us support the important work of the Healthy Start program by regularly reporting complete immunization information to the CIR for the children currently in your care. Together we can make a difference for the health of NYC's children.

Contact us at
(212) 676-2323 for
free on-site training to report
immunizations and retrieve
records from the CIR via
personal computer
and modem.



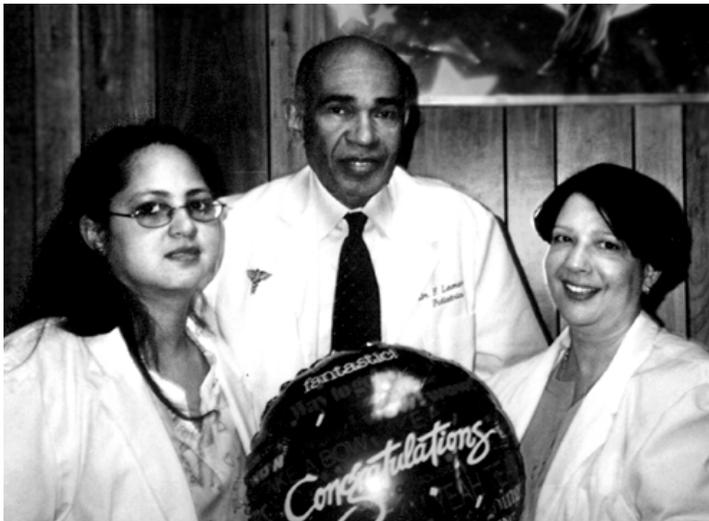
Check out our new and improved website at nyc.gov/health/cir

*Thank you:
Shirley Huie, Mike
Humberstone and
Arlene Hoffman for
your great work on
the website!*

**We'd like to have your
e-mail address! Please send it
to us at: cir@health.nyc.gov
please include name and
your facility code**

Winner's Circle

To show our appreciation, four times a year we honor two health care sites for their outstanding efforts. Tasty treats and certificates of appreciation will be delivered to each of the winners and celebration will ensue! Stay tuned and you might be the next to hear: **“And the winner is...”**



Dr. Francois Lamarre

Dr. Lamarre has been providing healthcare to children for over 25 years. At his busy Upper Westside office, 20-30 children are immunized per week. Although he is very busy, Dr. Lamarre is diligent about following the Health Code immunization reporting mandate. His medical assistant, Digna Cid, reports to the CIR every two weeks using our on-line computer application, and for those children who cannot be found in the system, she registers them by sending a paper report to the CIR.

Dr. Lamarre's staff finds the online system easy to use, noting "it's much faster than paper reporting." They also use the online system to look up immunization records for children who come in without their immunization cards.

In situations where they are unable to find patients using the online system, Dr. Lamarre's office and other providers are encouraged to call the CIR to take advantage of the greater search capabilities that are available. If we are able to find the child, we can fax the record to your office within minutes.

Dr. Lamarre believes that the CIR provides a valuable service: "I think it's important to have a central database for all records."

The CIR thanks Dr. Lamarre and his staff for their hard work, and continuing support.

Dr. Gregory Bard

Dr. Gregory Bard credits being honored as CIR Practice of the Quarter to his dedicated and cooperative staff. He sees the CIR as a "special tool to help pediatricians" do their job in caring for children and ensuring that their immunizations are complete. While he acknowledges that reporting is time consuming, he also values the mission of the CIR. "It should have been in place years ago," he said. He also likes the idea that records are stored in a central place and can be retrieved easily.

This exemplary office has streamlined its process for reporting to the CIR. The staff now uses our on-line computer application to do most of the reporting. "It was hard filling out all those forms. Being able to report from my computer made life so much easier!" said Ilona, the medical biller.

We at the CIR are pleased to honor Dr Bard's office as one of our Practices of the Quarter!

