

Whale's Tales

April 2009



Welcome to Whale's Tales! Whale's Tales is a periodic bulletin written for the MOBI Trainer. WT reports the pertinent information about statewide MOBI training activities, trainer experiences, challenges and immunization information that impact the MOBI trainer and course participant.

Thank you to the many MOBI trainers for scheduling and/or presenting close to 150 MOBIs since the start of 2009.

Letter from Dr. V:

Well it's been a very busy MOBI season. I want to thank all of you who attended the MOBI training sessions in March. More than 100 trainers attended either the half-day sessions or the full-day training for new trainers. The questions were insightful and feedback suggested that most trainers were pleased with the changes in the program.

I also recently attended the 43rd National Immunization Conference in Dallas. The topics covered were diverse and from very scattered locations around the United States. One recurring theme was the continued difficulty in appropriately immunizing children and how to track and follow immunization rates. It seems that everyone in the immunization field is having the same problems we discussed during our training sessions. There are no easy answers, but I feel MOBI and our trainers are addressing these issues as well as anyone.

A few concerns about questions from our training sessions.

We have linked the policy statements regarding the original varicella vaccine cell line on the Ohio AAP Web site (www.ohioaap.org then go Program Initiatives then click on MOBI) for those who been asked questions about this topic.

I was asked about currently recommended needle length for vaccine administration. The article reference is *Pediatrics* 2008, 122 e556-e563 and can also be found at

medscape.com/articles. Please remember this is one study looking at needle lengths and that official recommendations from ACIP have not changed.

Official recommendations continue to be listed on the CDC Web site, in the *Red Book* and in the *General Recommendations on Immunization MMWR 2006; 55(No.RR-15)*.

I was asked about trainers giving practices a list of public health sites in their respective geographical areas for low cost immunization. While most practices should have this information, remember that we are trying to maximize OFFICE BASED immunization. We should be supporting as complete immunization in the practice rather than suggesting referring the children out. We don't want to encourage missed opportunities!

Lastly, during our discussion about the new combination vaccine slide, at least one trainer came away with the impression MOBI was endorsing the specific use of the newly licensed DTaP-IPV vaccine. While the use of combination vaccines have been shown to improve patient/parent satisfaction and improve overall immunization rates, MOBI does not (and will not) recommend the use of a specific, branded product. Any licensed product used within the recommended guidelines is sufficient.

Dr. V

To reach Dr. Vogelgesang, please call (440) 888-3501 or e-mail him at doctorv@preferredpediatrics.net

MOBI Update:

Updated MOBI Resources – A few of the resources found in the MOBI Resource Pack have been updated since our March training. Links for these resources may be found on the MOBI Web site- www.ohioaap.org. MOBI trainers may choose to obtain copies of these updated resources for their upcoming MOBI presentations.

1. *Screening Questionnaire for Child and Teen Immunization* (Latest edition date 4/09)
2. *MOBI Vaccine Update* (Latest edition date March 26, 2009) - We clarified schedule wording for Rotavirus Vaccine and added information concerning accelerated schedules in the Human Papillomavirus Vaccine sections following suggestions from MOBI trainers at our March TTT Workshop.

Presenter's Notes - Trainers, please note a few printing errors in your MOBI Presenter's Notes.

The notes found with slide 42 (VIS) actually go with, slide 43 (Multi- Vaccine VIS.)

On slide 44 (Vaccine Storage and Handling) the temperature degree symbols within the note section printed incorrectly. The degree symbol looks like a "zero" – (5 degrees looks like "50" degrees and 46 degrees looks like "460" degrees). The actual slide shows the correct

temperatures, so refer to the slide for the correct interpretation of the acceptable temperature ranges.

Corrected pages have been put on the MOBI Web site for you to download at your convenience.

Confusion about MOBI presentations - Several MOBI trainers have called or e-mailed the MOBI office with questions about what MOBI programs will count toward meeting objective 4c of the IAP grant.

MOBI, a statewide quality improvement program, was developed for health-care providers with a focus on **office-based practices**. Therefore, MOBIs given to or at the following locations will not count toward meeting objective 4c of the IAP grant:

- Health Department staff.
- WIC or Help Me Grow program staff located within the health department.
- Elementary schools and day cares;
- Nursing and Medical Assistant Schools;
- MOBIs conducted for multiple practices at one time – unless given permission from the ODH Immunization Program prior to giving the MOBI presentation.

Trainers **may** give a MOBI presentation at the above locations, but it will not count toward the number of presentations identified in their IAP Grant.

Please complete a MOBI Program Planner for **all** presentations. The MOBI office will send one Resource pack and one Office Resource Pack for those entities to keep as reference material, however no Pink Book will be given. If attendees at those entities complete an evaluation form and sign the attendance sheet they **will** receive a certificate verifying that they completed the MOBI program and will be eligible for Nursing Contact hours or CME hours.

News You Can Use:

In response to questions and information from our trainers at our recent training, we have listed the following helpful resources:

Q: Where can I find more information to educate parents when they ask about alternative vaccination schedules?

A: Paul Offit, MD, and Charlotte Moser, BS, Vaccine Education Center, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, published an article in the January 2009 issue of the AAP journal *Pediatrics* titled "The Problem with Dr Bob's Alternative Vaccine Schedule." The article is available online at <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/cgi/reprint/123/1/e164.pdf>

Q: How can I address the concern of “too many vaccines?”

A: The Vaccine Education Center has also recently released a handout for parents titled "Too Many Vaccines? What you should know."

To access this resource, go to:

http://www.chop.edu/vaccine/images/vec_tomany.pdf (English) or

http://www.chop.edu/vaccine/images/vec_tomany_esp.pdf (Spanish)

News Splash:

Have you ever thought of creating your *own* MOBI slide? Well, here is your chance to create a new MOBI slide and have it incorporated into our September updates of MOBI materials.

This slide and accompanying presenter's note page may include any information that you think pertinent to MOBI and our efforts to increase immunization coverage levels among Ohio's Children.

Slide entries will be reviewed and selected by the MOBI Project Team. Deadline for entries is **June 30**. The winner will be announced in the July Issue of *Whale's Tales*. If you do not want to create an actual PowerPoint slide, you can just send your suggestions by mail, e-mail or fax to Karen Kirk at the MOBI office, kkrk@ohioaap.org, fax: 614-846-4025; mail to: MOBI, 450 W. Wilson Bridge Rd., Suite 215, Worthington, OH 43085. We look forward to seeing your entries!

Reminder:

Pink Books were expected to arrive in mid-April, but so far we haven't received them. Pink Books will be mailed directly to the practice where your MOBI presentation was held with a note from the MOBI office thanking the practice for having a MOBI. If you would prefer to hand-deliver the Pink Book to the practice where you made a MOBI presentation, please contact Karen Kirk at 614-846-6350.

Whale's Tales welcomes all FAXES, calls, mail to the MOBI Program at (614) 846-6350