

ARRA Rotavirus Immunizations and Immunization Registry

Funding Amount: \$2 million worth of rotavirus vaccine and \$955,000 for immunization registry

Amount Spent: \$1,860,000

Project Description:

Nearly \$3 million has been awarded to fund the ARRA Rotavirus Immunizations and Immunization Registry project thanks to an appropriation from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

More than \$2 million worth of rotavirus vaccine has been provided to the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) as an in-kind allocation. Rotavirus is a serious disease that causes severe diarrhea and dehydration in infants and children. In the US, rotavirus is responsible for more than 400,000 doctor visits, more than 200,000 emergency room visits, 55,000 to 70,000 hospitalizations, and as many as 60 deaths each year. The photo above shows an infant receiving the oral rotavirus vaccine.

In addition to the immunizations, over \$900,000 has been awarded to replace DPH's outdated, DOS-based immunization registry with a web-based immunization registry and tracking system, and to hire additional staff to assist with data entry into the registry. Our current registry contains over 5 million immunizations for over 526,000 children and each year over 35,000 children and 800,000 immunizations are added.



Protecting Connecticut's Children from Vaccine-Preventable Diseases

- 26,000 doses of rotavirus vaccine provided to immunization providers throughout Connecticut
- 13,000 children aged 2 -- 8 months of age protected against rotavirus disease
- Three temporary data entry operators employed for six months each to assist with data entry in preparation for migrating data from the old to the new registry
- A new web-based immunization registry and tracking system with the capability to:
 - Provide real-time immunization information
 - Allow immunization providers access to their own information to generate reports, print immunization histories, and run reminder and recall notices
 - Allow DPH to monitor immunization trends and vaccine uptake
 - Link the registry to other DPH programs that work with infants and young children