

Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations

December 1, 2016

2016 COMMISSION

Chair

The Honorable Larry Hogan
Governor

Dianna Abney, MD, FAAP

100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

Members

Anne Bailowitz, MD, MPH

The Honorable Joan Carter Conway
Chair

David Blythe, MD, MPH

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Charles Fleming

Toby Gordon, Sc.D

Jeffery Kaplan, MD

The Honorable Peter A. Hammen
Chair
Health and Government Operations Committee
Room 241, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Alicia Mezu, MSN/Ed., RN

J. Crossan O'Donovan, DO

Robert Sadowski, MD, MBA

Casey Scott, MD

Monique Soileau-Burke, MD

Dear Governor Hogan, Chair Conway, and Chair Hammen:

Rosalyn Stewart, MD

In accordance with Health-General Article §18-214(k), the Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations (the Commission) is submitting this annual report to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee. The Commission is charged with determining where community vaccine shortages exist, developing recommendations for equitable distribution of vaccines, making recommendations for how to increase immunizations, and studying and making recommendations about other vaccine-related issues.

Tiffany Tate, MHS

Jennifer Thomas, Pharm.D

Roseann Velez, DNP

STAFF

Kurt Seetoo, MPH

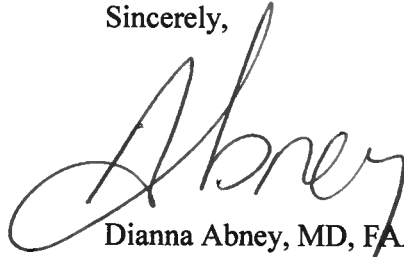
The Commission held three meetings in Calendar Year 2016; one in April, July, and November. One more is scheduled to take place before December 31, 2016. Dr. Dianna E. Abney, MD FAAP was appointed Chair by Secretary Mitchell. Dr. Abney is the Health Officer of Charles County and a board certified pediatrician who is a practicing physician.

Kurt.seetoo@maryland.gov

At the April meeting, the Commission received updates on the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's efforts to increase human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination rates and to increase the use of Immunet, Maryland's immunization information system. The Commission also discussed ways to increase both the use of HPV vaccination and Immunet. Most of the July meeting was focused on the recommendation from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to not use Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV) this year, and on the delay in receiving replacement injectable vaccine. Some counties have chosen not to provide influenza vaccine during the school day because LAIV will not be used. The Commission is closely watching the uptake of influenza vaccine and will use information learned this season to provide guidance to school systems for the next influenza season should LAIV continue to not be available. The upcoming meetings will include updates on these items and discussions on how to increase adult vaccination rates in Maryland.

Please accept this letter as the Commission's annual report for Calendar Year 2016. If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-609-6901 or dianna.abney@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abney', with a large, stylized initial 'A'.

Dianna Abney, MD, FAAP

Chair

Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations

Cc: Andrew Nicklas, JD, Director, Office of Governmental Affairs
Howard Haft, MD, MMM, CPE, FACPE, Deputy Secretary, Public Health Services
Donna Gugel, Acting Director, Prevention and Health Promotion Administration
David Blythe, MD, MPH, Director, Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Outbreak Response
Bureau
Sarah T. Albert MSAR #8248