

ACTION STEP WORKSHEET

Action Title: Create a standing Secretary of Health and Environment's Immunization Advisory Panel to succeed IKK.

Description: A group of 12-15 panel members would be appointed by the Secretary of Health and Environment for fixed terms. Members would represent specific stakeholder organizations. Guests would participate in meetings as appropriate for the agenda. The panel would meet 3-4 times per year so that immunization issues are brought promptly to the attention of the Secretary and immunization remains a high priority for state government.

Rationale: The field of immunization is changing constantly. New vaccines are introduced with increasing frequency, recommended immunization practices change often, and new data on immunization rates becomes available at least annually. The status of the complex immunization system in Kansas should be reviewed regularly to proactively respond to issues as they emerge.

Strategy supported (refer to the IKK strategies):

4. Promote policies, regulations and environmental changes that increase access to and utilization of immunization services.

Expected Outcomes: This policy advisory group for KDHE would assess the current status of immunization programs in the state regularly and advise the secretary on actions necessary to optimize immunization services for children in Kansas.

Proposed evaluation methods: Improving immunization coverage and timeliness of immunization rates as measured by the 2-year old survey and kindergarten surveys. Increased numbers of immunization providers and VFC immunization providers. Improved state funding for immunization programs in KS.

Challenges: Funding. Consensus on the process for appointing members.

Resource Requirements: Expenses for Panel Members. Support Staff, Supplies, Meals, Meeting Rooms.

Commitments for Implementation:

<i>Participant Organization and Name</i>	<i>Suggested Organization and Name</i>
KDHE	
KAAP	
KAFP	
Kansas Association for Osteopathic Medicine	
KMS	
Kansas Association of Local Health Departments	
KHI	
Kansas Public Health Association	
BCBS	
Health Insurance Companies with the Medicaid Contract	
Kansas State Nurses Association	
Kansas Health Policy Authority	