

NCIRD HONOR AWARDS
Excellence in Partnering
Immunization Action Coalition

Challenge: Providing resources that all residents of the United States can read and understand is a daunting challenge. Most sources estimate the United States population to be well over 400 million by 2050 adding nearly 100 million. Most of America's net population growth will be among its minorities, as well as in a growing mixed-race population. Latino and Asian populations are expected to nearly triple, and the children of immigrants will become more prominent. Today in the United States, 25 percent of children under age 5 are Hispanic; by 2050, that percentage will be almost 40 percent.

The National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. §300aa-26) requires that all health care providers in the United States who administer vaccines that are routinely recommended for children shall, prior to administration of each dose of such vaccine, provide the recipient (or the recipient's parent or legal representative) written materials describing the risks and benefits of that vaccine. This document is known as the Vaccine Information Statement (VIS). Responsibility for producing these materials has been delegated to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Action: The Immunization Action Coalition has taken on the reins of developing, housing, distributing, and maintaining translations of VISs. They have developed partnership with translating companies, governmental and non-governmental organizations, and individuals with an effort to secure valid and tested translations to providers across the country. They actively update the translations to ensure that all patients are receiving the most current information in a language that they can understand.

Currently the Immunization Action Coalition is the only organization that acts as a clearing house for currently available VIS translations. They have an established and proven relationship with provider

and provider organizations nation-wide. Their website is actively used by providers as a viable, reliable, current, and trustworthy source of information. The website connects with providers across the nation providing valuable information receiving more than 15,000 visits each day.

Impact: CDC only produces the English language version of VIS documents. IAC has been able to secure or produce more than 170 updates and new VISs in the past 12 months. These updates have included translations into more than 20 different languages. More than half of the translations that they are able to receive are donated through their vast network of partners. The Immunization Action Coalition reports more than 1 million downloads of VIS translations from April of 2011 to March of 2012. With the increased focus on updating and the creation of new VIS translations, this number increased over 200,000 in the same period 2012 through 2013. The partnership CDC has with the Immunization Action Coalition has made the CDC even stronger and better able to meet the needs of the Nation.