

Engagement with Project Areas in Tracking Vaccine Doses Administered in Preparation for a Future Pandemic Event

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Background

- Timely reporting of pandemic influenza vaccine doses administered allows the federal government and Project Areas* to closely monitor the use of limited vaccine supplies.
- During the 2009 H1N1 pandemic event, Project Areas utilized the Countermeasure and Response Administration (CRA) system to track aggregate H1N1 vaccine doses administered during the initial weeks of the vaccine campaign.
- Based on feedback from Project Areas following the H1N1 event, a voluntary Doses Administered Exercise (DAX 2010 Lite) was conducted using the CRA system.

Purpose

- The purpose of the DAX 2010 Lite exercise was to prepare Project Areas for a pandemic influenza event, should one occur. This poster highlights the processes, efforts and findings of this exercise conducted in the fall of 2010.

Methods

- Nineteen Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grantees, also referred to as Project Areas, volunteered to participate in the exercise, held October 24 through November 9, 2010.
- Project Areas were responsible for submitting aggregate doses administered counts for the reporting period based on the MMWR week (Sunday through Saturday). The deadline for this reporting period was Tuesday at 11:59 pm local time for the reporting jurisdiction.
- Project Areas transmitted data using one of the following options (Figure 1):
 - Data exchange using an existing Immunization Information System (IIS)
 - Direct web entry of aggregate data
 - Direct web entry of individual detail
- Seasonal influenza vaccines were used as a proxy for pandemic vaccine. Data was submitted according to the five general population category tiers based on the Health and Human Services and Department of Homeland Security *Guidance on Allocating and Targeting Pandemic Influenza Vaccine* (Table 1).

Figure 1. Aggregate Reporting Options via CRA

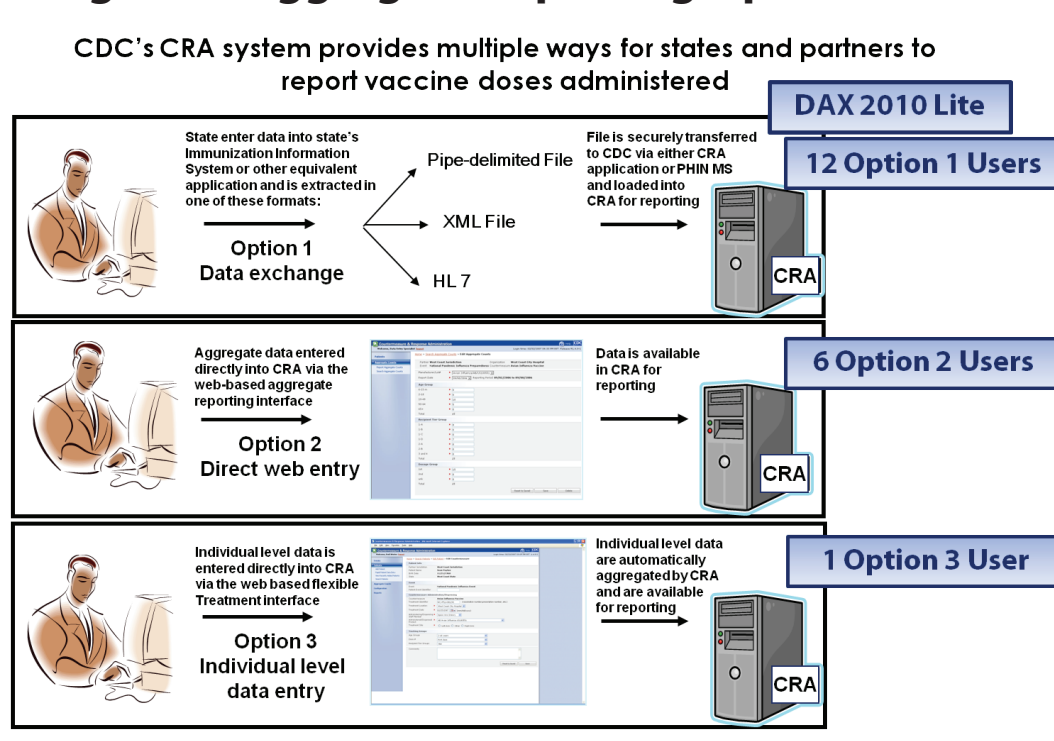


Table 1. General Population Priority Group Tiers**
ACIP¹ assigned general population priority groups categorizes vaccinees into five tiers

	Vaccinees Population
1	Pregnant women, infants and toddlers 6-36 months old
2	Household contacts of infants <6 months old
3	Children 3 – 18 years both with and without high-risk conditions
4	Persons 19-64 years with high-risk conditions and persons >65 years old
5	Healthy adults 19-64 years old

**Extracted from the *Guidance on Allocating and Targeting Pandemic Influenza Vaccine*

Results

- Nineteen out of 62 (31%) Project Areas participated in the voluntary exercise and submitted a total of 294,386 vaccine doses administered.
- Twelve Project Areas selected reporting Option 1, six Project Areas selected Option 2, and one Project Area selected Option 3 (Figure 1).
- Reporting measures for DAX 2010 Lite included timeliness and responsiveness.
 - Seventy-nine percent (79%) of Project Areas reported on time for week 1, and 84% reported on time for week 2 (Figure 2).
 - Eighty-nine percent (89%) of Project Areas reported for both weeks of the exercise, which increased to 95% by the extended deadline³ (Figure 3).
- Following the exercise, 18 out of 19 (94.7%) Project Areas completed an anonymous, on-line feedback questionnaire, with a total of 20 responses⁵. A subset of these responses are represented in Figure 4 and Figure 5.

Figure 2. Reporting Timeliness

Timeliness: Sending weekly aggregate data by 11:59 PM on Tuesday following the reporting week.

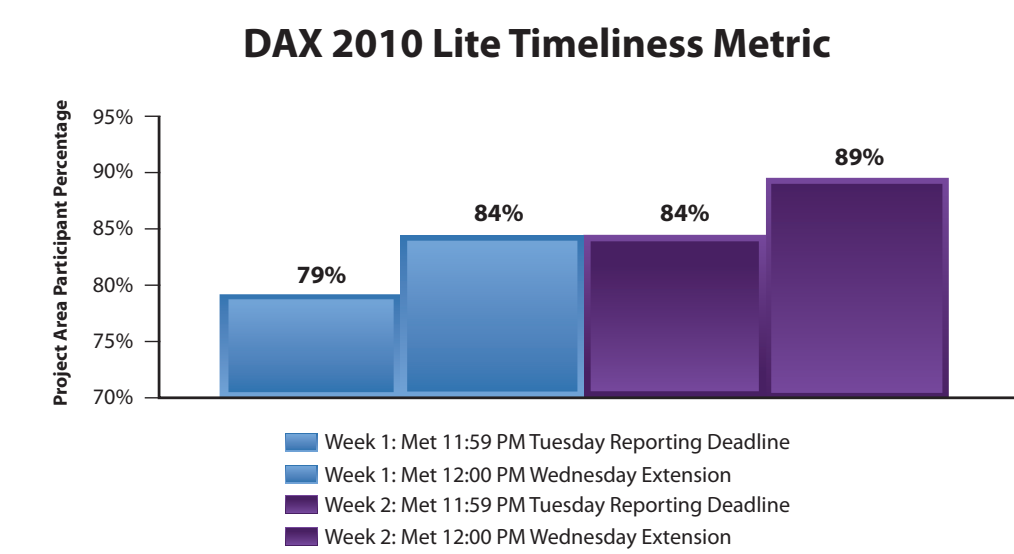


Figure 3. Reported by Extended Deadline of 11/19/2010³

Responsiveness: Number of weeks a Project Area reported aggregate data to CRA during the DAX 2010 Lite exercise.

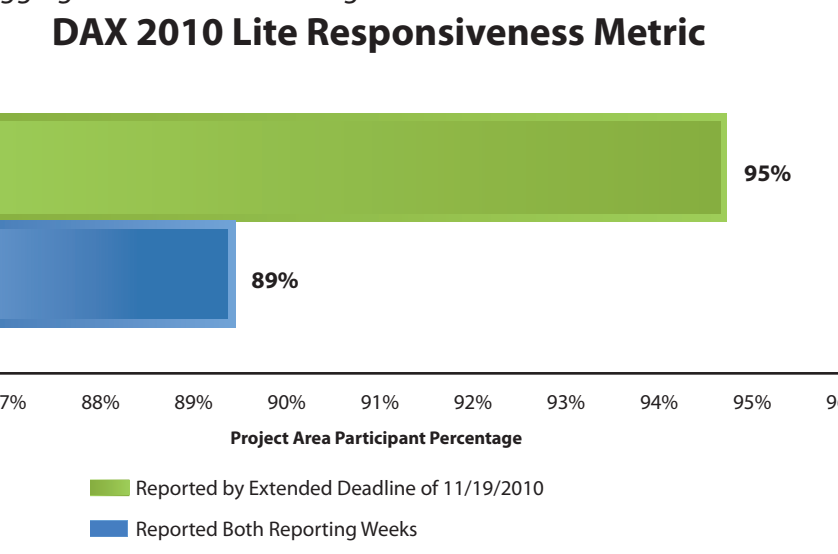


Figure 4. Ease of Using CRA to Report Data to CDC

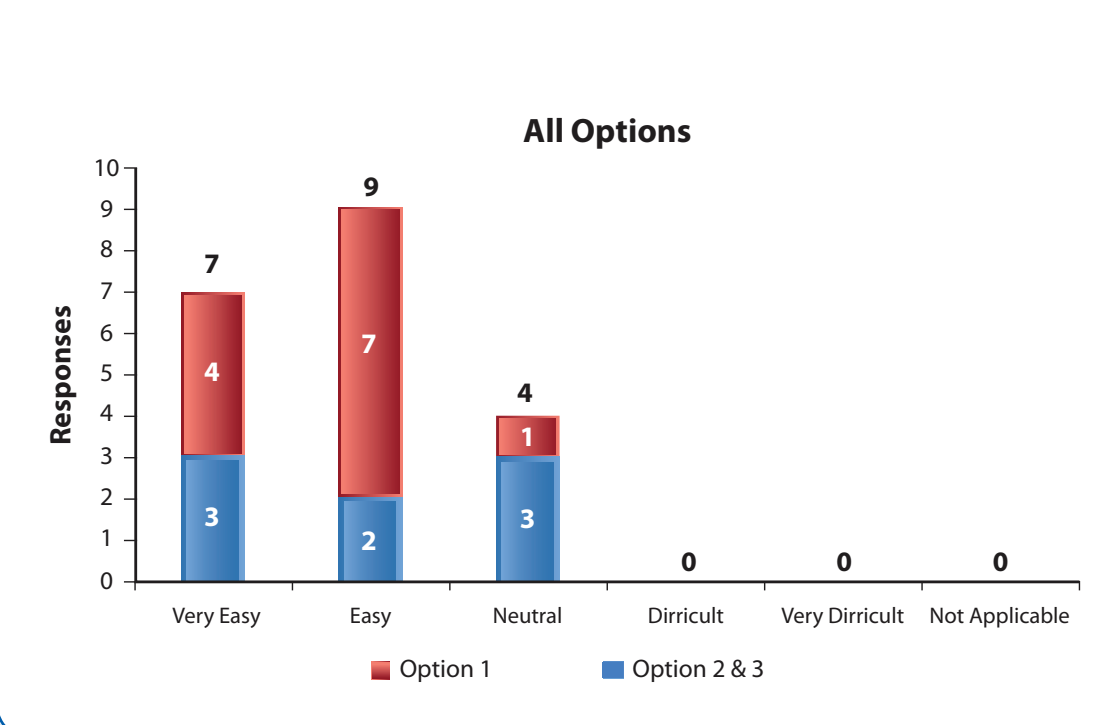
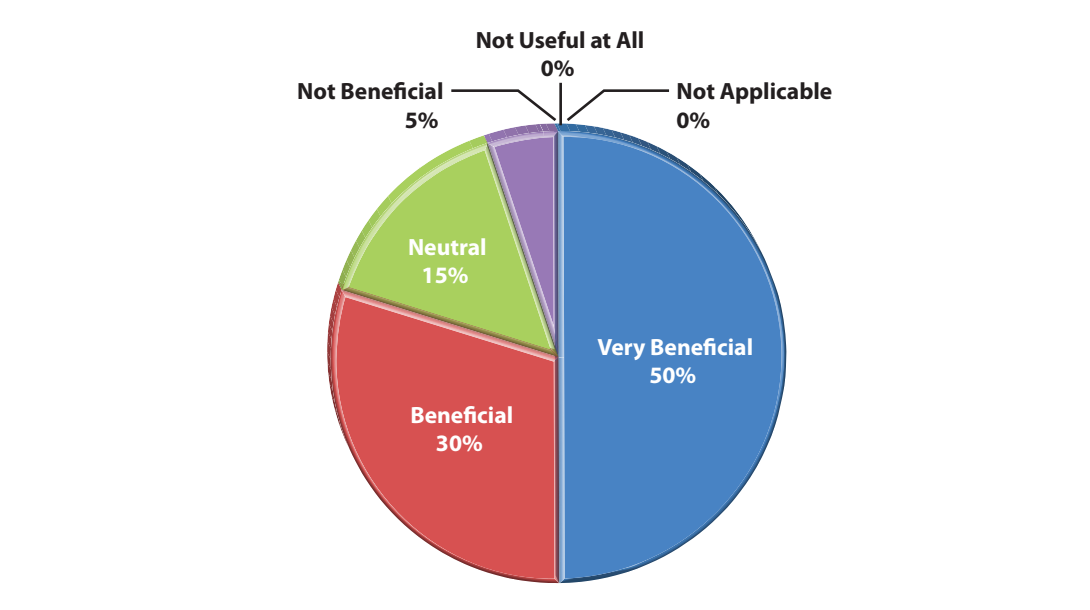


Figure 5. Benefit of DAX 2010 Lite in Maintaining Preparedness Efforts for Tracking and Reporting Doses Administered



Resources

- CRA webpage <http://www.cdc.gov/phn/cra>
- For questions/comments email crahelp@cdc.gov

Definitions and Footnotes

*Project Areas: Also known as the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grantees, Project Areas include the 50 states, 8 territories and the 4 metropolitan areas of Chicago, Los Angeles County, New York City and Washington DC

¹ACIP: CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices

³Extended deadline of 11/19/2010: The deadline for reporting was extended to accommodate one Project Area

⁵Two Project Areas completed the survey twice

Successes

- Thirty-one percent (31%) of the Project Areas participated in the voluntary exercise.
- Ninety-five percent (95%) of participants submitted data for both reporting weeks by the extended deadline³ (Figure 3).
- Project Areas met the timeliness and responsiveness objective metrics (Figure 2, Figure 3).
- Project Areas frequently participated in CRA webinars, system refresher training and accessed web-based resources.
- Digital certificate issues were notably reduced through proactive communication as compared to previous exercises.
- Project Areas provided positive feedback on DAX 2010 Lite, indicating that the exercise helped them to remain up to date with the system and engaged with doses administered preparedness efforts (Figure 4, Figure 5).

Challenges

- Some participants presumed that reporting requirements and processes remained unchanged from the 2009 H1N1 event.
- Operational
 - Logistics: Challenges at the Project Area level included staffing levels, staff turnover, new system and procedures.
- Programmatic and Technical
 - Data messaging: Two Project Areas initially experienced difficulties with messaging between their IIS and the CRA system.
 - File formatting: Files for three Project Areas originally contained errors, which were ultimately resolved and uploaded to CRA without difficulty.
 - CRA menu: Two Project Areas required assistance locating the appropriate menu selection.

Conclusions

- The high percentage of voluntary participation in DAX 2010 Lite indicates Project Areas' commitment to use CRA to track vaccine doses administered.
- DAX 2010 Lite provided an opportunity for Project Areas to renew their familiarity with CRA and improve upon new processes.
- DAX 2010 Lite allowed Project Areas to train new staff, test changes in security and systems.
- DAX 2010 Lite helped several Project Areas to identify concerns related to staff vacancies and other operational issues.
- Solutions identified to DAX 2010 Lite "challenges" may be incorporated into CRA to further technically enhance the system.
- Two weeks may not have been a long enough period for Project Areas to fully engage in the exercise.
- Maintaining clear communication and guidance during the pre-exercise period helped enable smooth execution of the exercise from the start through completion.

Acknowledgements

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