



Division of Public Health Services

*Office of the Assistant Director
Public Health Preparedness Services*

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JANET NAPOLITANO, GOVERNOR
SUSAN GERARD, DIRECTOR

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Dear Community Partner:

The Arizona Department of Health Services and the County Health Departments has developed the **Arizona School-based Chickenpox Surveillance System** in schools and child care centers in order to monitor the number of cases of chickenpox and the impact of the vaccine in the community. Chickenpox (also known as varicella) has decreased in the last few years since many children are now receiving the vaccination against this disease, and thus it is important to detect these changes.

We are asking for your participation in this system. Chickenpox cases must be reported to the local health department by schools and childcare establishments under Arizona Administrative Code R9-6-203. The report should include the names, birthdates, onset dates, vaccination dates and severity of disease for each individual. Parental report of chickenpox is sufficient for diagnosis. A copy of the reporting form is enclosed.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

John J. Meyer, MPH
Influenza Epidemiologist
Office of Infectious Disease Services

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