



Rhode Island Early Intervention Information for SC's

What is KIDSNET?

- KIDSNET is Rhode Island's confidential computerized child health information system administered by the Rhode Island Department of Health.
- Parents of RI children are notified when their child is first entered into the KIDSNET information system at birth, upon receiving a vaccination or upon enrollment in a participating program if they were not born in RI. As children get older, KIDSNET receives information from healthcare providers on: immunizations, results of developmental assessment, hearing and metabolic screening, results from blood lead tests, home visits, and whether the child has participated in Early Intervention and/or WIC Programs.
- KIDSNET helps keep track of children's vaccinations and other public health services; reminds doctors when it is time for their patients to visit the doctor for a lead test, hearing test, or vaccination, and provides doctors with an official immunization record for entry to school, daycare, and camp. This information is accessible in the event of an emergency, when families change physicians, or other situations that necessitate the need for quick medical information.
- KIDSNET protects information in the system very carefully. Federal and state confidentiality, privacy, and security laws make sure that only authorized users have access to KIDSNET. Healthcare providers, school nurse teachers, Head Start nurses, and staff from KIDSNET and its participating programs are authorized users. Access to KIDSNET is on a "need to know" basis. This means that users can only have access to the information in KIDSNET that is needed in order to provide services or to coordinate care for the child. Parents have the right to limit who has access to KIDSNET by calling the HEALTH information line at 401-222-5960.
- With parent consent the Executive Office of Health and Human Services will release a limited amount of data to KIDSNET. This includes the child's name, parent's name, address, and Early Intervention provider, the child's referral, evaluation and IFSP dates, and discharge status and date. KIDSNET will share this information with authorized users only.
- For more information about KIDSNET, please visit the web site at www.health.ri.gov/family/kidsnet or call the KIDSNET Help Desk at **(401) 222-5960 / RI Relay 711**.