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# **Overview of ImmTrac2**

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## **Development of the Texas Immunization Registry**

# Agenda

- Introduction to the Texas Immunization Registry
- Disaster Consents
- Standard (Non-Disaster) Consents
- How Clients Can Sign a Consent or Withdraw a Consent
- Electronic Data Sent to the Registry
- Data from the Registry Available to the Public



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# **Introduction to the Texas Immunization Registry (Known as ImmTrac2)**



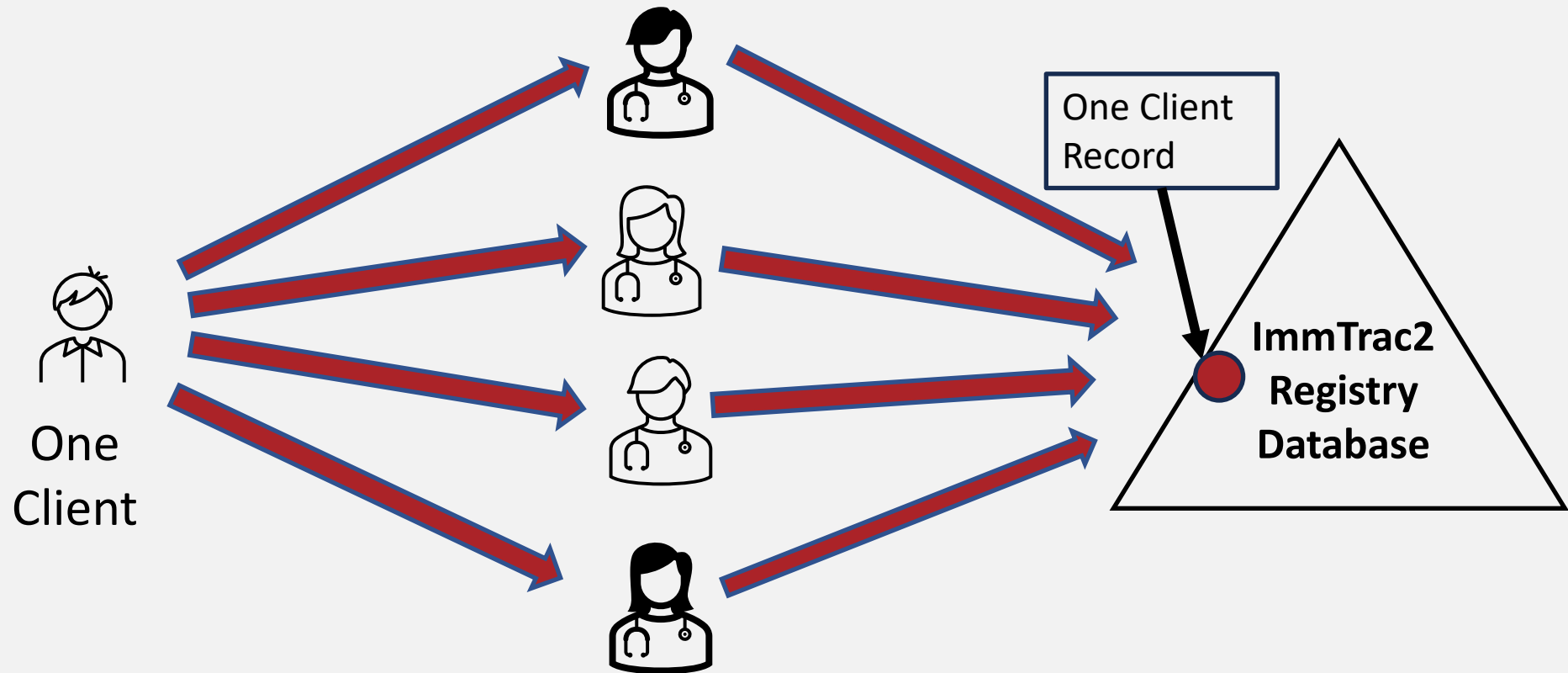
# What is ImmTrac2?

- A statewide Registry that consolidates fragmented immunization records for Texas children and adults from a variety of sources,
- Free, confidential, and secure service,
- A resource to increase vaccine coverage across Texas,
- Disaster-related reporting and tracking system for antivirals, immunizations, and other medications (AIMs).
- ImmTrac2 stores only immunization data. It is not an Electronic Health Records (EHR) system and does not store other medical information.



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# A Client May See Multiple Providers; The Registry Consolidates the Records



Multiple Providers: Primary Doctor,  
Health Plan, Chain Pharmacy, etc

# As of December 31, 2024

- 9,580 organizations have submitted immunization data
- 216 million immunizations were received from
- 20.5 million consented clients



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# It All Began With...

- A response to a measles outbreak in 1989 to 1991 attributed to a failure to vaccinate preschool-aged children
- Texas reported 9,400 measles cases and 26 deaths (1988-1992)
- In Houston, it cost \$8.5 million to hospitalize 550 measles patients; the cost to vaccinate was \$8,400
- The Registry was originally limited to children under 18



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# The Texas Legislature Creates the Registry

## **Texas Health and Safety Code, Section 161.007 (a):**

The department [DSHS], for the primary purpose of establishing and maintaining a single repository of accurate, complete, and current immunization records to be used in aiding, coordinating, and promoting efficient and cost-effective communicable disease prevention and control efforts, shall establish and maintain an immunization registry.



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# General Public - Official Immunization Records

- The Registry is a secure and confidential database.
- Direct electronic access is restricted to certain organizations.
- The general public does not have electronic access.
- Members of the public can get a copy of their Official Immunization Record from their local health department or the Texas Immunization Registry.



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# Immunization Records are Confidential

- An immunization history, record, or report with individually identifiable information may not be released without a written release from the adult or if a child, from the parent or guardian.
- Any user of the Registry shall protect the confidentiality of all immunization histories, records, and reports.
- Registry information is not subject to a subpoena or other means of legal compulsion.



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Texas Administrative Code Title 25, Part 1, Chapter 100, Rule 100.2

# Organizations Authorized to Have Direct Electronic Access to the Registry, Part 1

- A **Texas public health district** or a **Texas local health department**, for public health purposes within their areas of jurisdiction;
- A **physician** or any **health care provider licensed** (or otherwise legally authorized) to administer vaccines in Texas, for treating the individual as a patient;
- A **Texas school** or **Texas child-care** facility, for an individual enrolled in that school or child-care facility.



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# Organizations Authorized to Have Direct Electronic Access to the Registry, Part 2

- A **payor** currently authorized by the Texas Department of Insurance to operate in Texas, for immunization records related to the specific person in Texas covered under the payor's policy;
- A **state agency having legal custody** of an individual.
- Note: The Registry has a specific attribute to indicate first responders so that their immunization records may be identified.



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# How Do Organizations Get Direct Access to the Registry?

- ImmTrac2 site registrations and renewals
- Organizations must renew their site agreement with ImmTrac2 every two years
- They can file a site renewal to:
  - Add or remove users
  - Change their Point of Contact (POC)
  - Change the name of their organization
  - Change their address



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# Syntropi versus ImmTrac2

- Organizations must use **Syntropi** to register or renew if they:
  - Are in the Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) program or the Adult Safety Net (ASN) program
  - Use bidirectional data exchange (BiDX) with the Registry
- Otherwise, they should use the **ImmTrac2** web application to register or renew their organization with the Registry



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# Providers Authorized in Texas to Prescribe Immunizations Can Report Immunizations to the Registry

- MD – Doctor of Medicine,
- DO – Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine,
- PA – Physician Assistant
- NP – Nurse Practitioner
- RPh – Registered Pharmacist
- PharmD – Doctor of Pharmacy
- CNM – Certified Nurse Midwife
- CPM – Certified Professional Nurse Midwife
- APRN – Advanced Practice Registered Nurse
- OD - Optometrist



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# Disaster Consents



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# Definition of a Disaster

- Beginning date and ending date,
- Geographic area,
- Specific antivirals, immunizations, and/or medications (**AIMs**) that are tied to the disaster, and
- Optionally, priority groups -  
Some disasters require priority groups but not all do.



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# Definition of a Disaster Client

## Disaster Clients:

- Receive a disaster related AIM
- Reside in the designated disaster region
- During the disaster period
- Optionally, may be assigned to a priority group



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# Section 161.00705 of the Texas Health and Safety Code

Any antiviral, immunization, or medication (**AIM**) administered in response to a declared disaster must be entered into the Texas Immunization Registry (ImmTrac2).



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# Section 100.7(b) of the Texas Administrative Code

- A health care provider who administers an AIM during a publicly declared disaster shall provide the data to the department (DSHS) within 30 days.
- Everyone receiving an AIM during a disaster will have their AIM reported to the registry, regardless of consent!
- The disaster immunization can only be held in the Registry for up to five years after the end of the disaster, UNLESS the client has signed a disaster retention consent, in which case it can be retained longer than that period.



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# Disaster Unconsented versus Disaster Consented Clients

- Disaster Unconsented (DU) clients, have NOT signed a disaster consent. Their disaster-related AIMs will be deleted five years after the end of the disaster.
- Disaster Consented (DC) clients, have a signed disaster consent. Their disaster-related AIMs will remain in the registry longer than five years after the end of the disaster.



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# Disaster Consents **ONLY** Pertain to Disaster Immunizations

- A **disaster** consent does **NOT** allow the storing of **non-disaster** immunizations in the Registry!
- To enter a non-disaster immunization, a standard non-disaster ImmTrac2 consent by must signed.



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# Summary of Disaster Consents

- All disaster AIMs must be recorded in the registry, with or without a disaster consent, BUT...
- Disaster Consents allow the registry to keep a client's disaster AIMs longer than 5 years. If a disaster client has not signed a disaster consent within 5 years after the end of the disaster, their disaster AIM is deleted.
- **Disaster consents only affect disaster AIMs.** They have no effect on keeping standard immunizations.



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# Best Practice for Consents

- Clients do not have to be in a disaster to sign a disaster consent, so best practice is to offer clients the opportunity to sign a disaster consent along with a standard consent.
- When a minor reaches the age of 18, they are required to re-consent as an adult before the age of 26 to maintain all childhood immunization records.



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# Standard (Non-Disaster) Consents



# Texas – An “Opt-In” State

- Since Texas is an “Opt-In” state, individuals must consent to have their non-disaster immunizations stored in the registry.



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# Standard Consents Affect Standard Immunizations

- A written or electronic consent of an individual or the individual's legally authorized representative is required before any information relating to the individual is included in the Registry.
- Standard consents allow the Registry to keep standard non-disaster immunizations.
- **Standard consents only affect standard immunizations. They have no effect on disaster immunizations.**



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# Two Types of Standard Non-Disaster Consents

- **Minor Consent** (for minors under 18) signed by the parent or guardian, allows the Registry to keep standard non-disaster immunizations until the child reaches 18.
- **Adult Consent** (for adults 18 and over) signed after the child reaches 18 but must be signed before the age of 26 to keep the childhood immunizations in the Registry. This consent allows the registry to keep standard non-disaster immunizations for life. If not signed by age 26, the childhood immunizations are deleted.

**Standard consents only affect standard immunizations.**

Standard consents have no effect on keeping disaster AIMs in the registry



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# Standard Non-Disaster Childhood Immunizations Are Purged at Age 26 Without an Adult Consent

- A minor consent allows the Registry to keep standard non-disaster immunizations until the child reaches 18.
- At the age of 18, the individual becomes an adult and must sign an adult consent before the age of 26 to keep all of their childhood immunizations.
- If the individual does not sign an adult consent before 26 years of age, all of their childhood immunizations are purged from the Registry.



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# Summary of Standard (Non-Disaster) Immunizations

- Providers **must** send immunizations for minors (under 18) to the Registry. Consent is required to be obtained only once and is valid until the child becomes 18 years of age, unless the consent is withdrawn in writing.
- Providers are not required to send immunizations for adults (18 and over) to the Registry BUT are encouraged to do so!
- The Registry cannot keep any standard immunizations unless a standard consent was signed and reported to DSHS.
- A disaster consent has no effect on standard immunizations, just disaster immunizations.



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# Upon Reaching the Age of 18

- Clients who were consented as a minor:
  - Will, upon reaching the age of 18, no longer be accessible by health care providers, and
  - If they do not sign an adult consent by the age of 26, their childhood immunizations will be purged from the Registry
- Clients who signed a disaster consent as a minor should sign a disaster consent as an adult.



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# Consent Forms on the General Public - Forms Webpage

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/immunizations/public/forms>

**Adult  
Consent**

F11-13366

[Immunization Registry \(ImmTrac2\) - Adult Consent Form](#)  (Bilingual)


**Minor  
Consent**

C-7

[Immunization Registry \(ImmTrac2\) - Minor Consent Form](#)  (Bilingual)

**Disaster  
Consent**

F11-12956

[Texas Immunization Registry \(ImmTrac2\) Disaster Information Retention Consent Form](#) 



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# How Clients Can Sign A Consent Or Withdraw their Consent



# Texas Laws on Consents Do Not Prevent an Immunization From Being Administered

There are no Texas laws that prevent a client from receiving an immunization, regardless of whether:

- They sign registry consent, and
- An administration occurs during a declared disaster.



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# How Clients Sign Up for ImmTrac2 (Forms and Documents) 1 of 2

**Step 1** - Download the correct form from ImmTrac2.

- Educate the clients that:
  - Parents can consent to register children aged 17 and younger with the ImmTrac2 [minor consent form](#),
  - Adults turning age 18 can consent to register themselves with the ImmTrac2 [adult consent form](#). They have until age 26 to sign a consent before childhood immunizations are purged.

A [disaster consent form](#) can be completed at any time for children and adults. This consent form allows the Registry to retain disaster-related information.



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# How Clients Sign Up for ImmTrac2 (Forms and Documents) 2 of 2

**Step 2** – Have clients sign the consent form.

- Ensure immunization records are kept in ImmTrac2.

**Step 3** – Instruct clients to provide immunization history if adding previous immunization records.



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# Clients Can Withdraw Their ImmTrac2 Consent

- An individual or the individual's legally authorized representative may withdraw consent to be included in the Registry by completing the [withdrawal of consent and confirmation form](#).
- Non-Consented disaster immunizations remain in the Registry for **five (5) years** at the end of a declared disaster before being purged.
- DSHS must exclude immunizations when a written request is received.
- Upon receiving a withdrawal request for a child's record, DSHS must ALWAYS send the parent or guardian a written confirmation of the removal from the registry.



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# Clients Can Request Their Immunization Record

- Clients may request their own (or their minor child's) immunization record by filling out form F11-11406 "Immunization Registry (ImmTrac2) Authorization to Release Official Immunization History (Bilingual)" found at <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/immunizations/public/forms>. The filled-out form may be taken to a local health dept or:
- Fax 512-776-7790, or
- Mail to:  
Texas Dept of State Health Services,  
Immunization Section,  
Texas Immunization Registry – MC1946,  
P.O. Box 149347,  
Austin, TX 78714-9347



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# Electronic Data Sent to the Registry



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# Data That is Sent Electronically to the Registry

- ImmTrac2 consents (affirmations) that allow the Registry to store the immunization records of clients,
- Client demographic data (name, address, sex, mother's name, etc.), and
- Immunization data (vaccine type, date administered, lot number, manufacturer, provider, etc.)
- ImmTrac2 site registrations and renewals

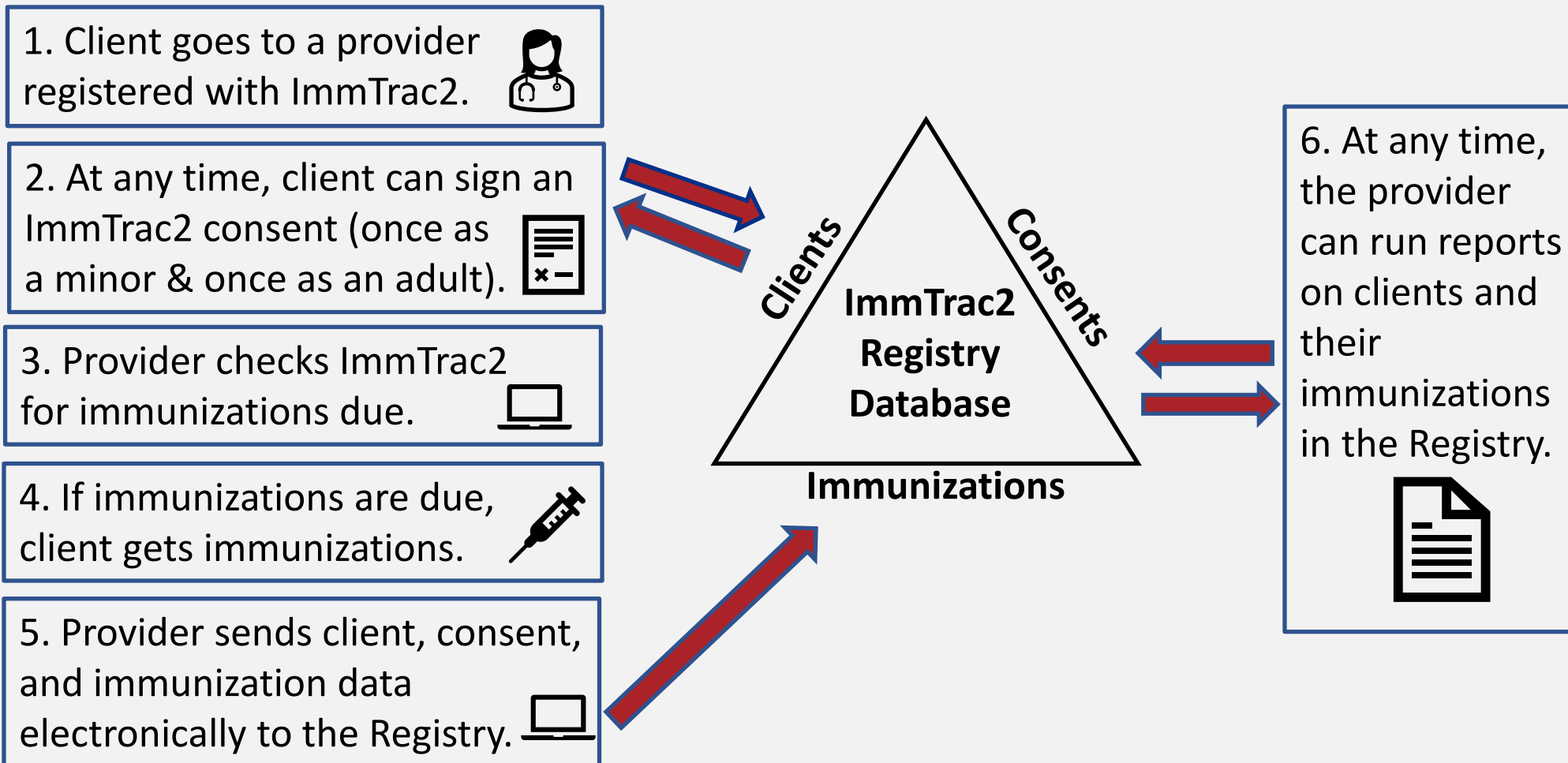
NOTE: Please enter only vaccine related information in free-text fields of the ImmTrac2 online application.



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# Simplified Flow of Data into ImmTrac2



# Three Methods of Reporting Data to the Registry

- ImmTrac2 Online,
- Unidirectional Data Exchange (sFTP), and
- Bidirectional Data Exchange.



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# Data Exchange versus the ImmTrac2 Online Application

- **80%** of data comes through data exchange.
- **20%** of data is manually entered into the ImmTrac2 online application.

**80%**  
**Data  
Exchange**

20% ImmTrac2  
Application



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# Benefits of Data Exchange

- Elimination of entering data twice (once in the provider's Electronic Health Records system and once in the ImmTrac2 online application),
- Client records routinely updated by the Primary Care Provider (PCP), large chain pharmacies, and health plans,
- Providers can query the Registry for client immunization data and update their EHR (bidirectional data exchange only), and
- Data exchange can reduce the time to report to the Registry and reduce reporting latency.



# Unidirectional Data Exchange

## Unidirectional

- Healthcare entities send data to the Registry
- Uses File Transfer Protocol (FTP)
- Large volume done in batches

**Health Care  
Providers,  
Pharmacies, etc.**

**Immunization Data**

**Texas  
Immunization  
Registry**



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# Bidirectional Data Exchange

## Bidirectional

- Healthcare entities send and receive data from the Registry to update their EHR system
- Uses Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP)
- Small volume done in real-time
- Users can query the Registry and retrieve data for their EHR

**Health Care  
Providers,  
Pharmacies, etc.**

Immunization Data

Immunization Data

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# Data from the Registry Available to the Public



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# Downloading a Request Form for an Immunization History

- Go to the Forms & Documents website at <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/immunization-unit/immtrac2-texas-immunization-registry/immtrac2-forms-documents>
- Download form “F11-11406 Immunization Registry (ImmTrac2) Authorization to Release Official Immunization History”

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Request an Immunization Record: |   |
| <a href="#">F11-11406</a>       | <a href="#">Immunization Registry (ImmTrac2) Authorization to Release Official Immunization History</a> (Bilingual) (rev. 02/2022)<br>Use this form to <b>authorize the release</b> of your or your child's ImmTrac2 records. |



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# Why ImmTrac2 is Beneficial to Clients

- Records are available even if you move or change providers,
- Schools can verify immunization records,
- Free and secure,
- Consented vaccines for a lifetime which provides benefits:
  - Traveling,
  - Employment in health and safety fields,
  - First responders and members of military families, and
  - Anyone displaced by a natural disaster.

For additional information, access the reference guide below.

[Benefits of Participating in the Texas Immunization Registry, \(ImmTrac2\)](#)



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# Changes for the Registry

- Local health departments have the ability to query the database
- “Modernized” reports
- Client Benchmark Report and Immunization Coverage Rate Report



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# Legal Resources

- Texas Health and Safety Code, Title 2, Subtitle H, Chapter 161, Subchapter A “Immunizations”, Section 161.007 “Immunization Registry”  
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.161.htm>
- Texas Administrative Code, Title 25, Part 1, Chapter 100, “Immunization Registry”  
[https://texas-sos.appianportalsgov.com/rules-and-meetings?chapter=100&interface=VIEW\\_TAC&part=1&title=25](https://texas-sos.appianportalsgov.com/rules-and-meetings?chapter=100&interface=VIEW_TAC&part=1&title=25)



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# Registry Resources

- To learn more about immunizations and the Registry, visit our website at <https://dshs.texas.gov/immunize/>
- For online entry via ImmTrac2 or general questions related to ImmTrac2, please contact 800-348-9158, Option 2 or [ImmTrac2@dshs.texas.gov](mailto:ImmTrac2@dshs.texas.gov)
- For electronic data exchange, please contact 800-348-9158, Option 3 or [ImmTracMU@dshs.texas.gov](mailto:ImmTracMU@dshs.texas.gov)



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