

## IN THIS ISSUE

- *What is an Exclusion Dose Report?*
- *Best Practices*
- *Data Clean-up*



## QUICK TIPS

Here are some tips and tricks to help maintain great data quality:

- Verify vaccine cards and review I-CARE vaccine histories before importing a historical dose!
- Review vaccine CVX codes to insure vaccine name accuracy.
- Make an effort to collect ethnicity data! This can help our health department locate and target at-risk populations.

# DATA QUALITY

**FEBRUARY 2024**

Chicago providers faced unprecedented challenges during the COVID Pandemic; however, we were able to vaccinate thousands of patients! The magnitude of data that rolled into our IIS was incredible. However, the mass number of vaccinations also brought along its forensic challenges. Some of the data in the IIS contains errors and requires correction. Upcoming newsletters will highlight these challenges and provide recommendations for our providers to address and mitigate these errors.

## WHAT IS AN EXCLUSION REPORT?

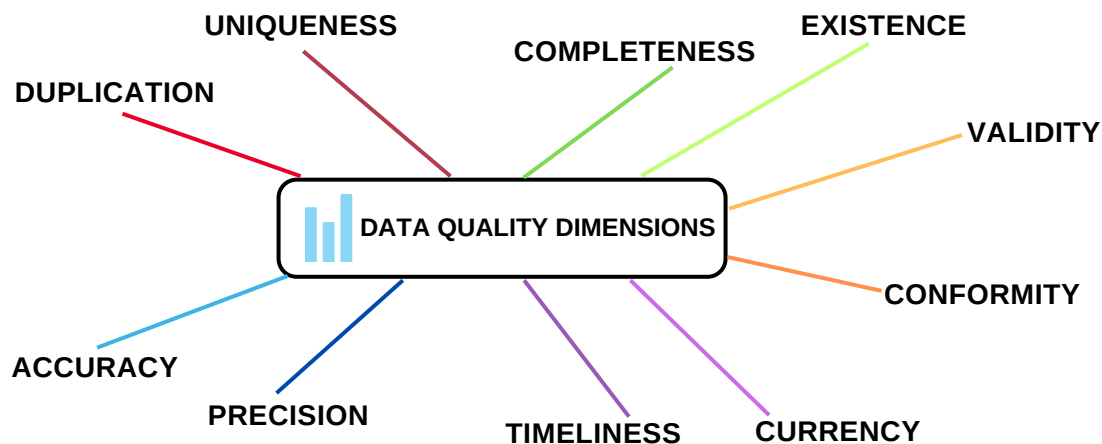
An exclusion report is a spreadsheet that contains a batch of irregular doses that were flagged for a variety of reasons. This could include duplicate doses, doses that were imported due to an incorrect account merge in I-CARE, or due to an unusual timing of an administered dose.

## HOW IS THIS PRESENTING A CHALLENGE TO PROVIDERS?

During the height of the pandemic, our IIS contained approximately 45,000 doses categorized as “irregular” or excluded. These doses were often imported incorrectly and contained vaccination records with errors. This presented challenges for our reminder/recall campaigns, where we send mass communications to people regarding booster doses. These campaigns rely on data-driven strategies that use IIS information to make decisions. If a patient’s vaccination record contains multiple “error” doses, the system may not forecast that the patient is overdue for a dose.

## EXCLUSION REPORT BEST PRACTICES

- ★ CDPH receives a monthly report containing irregular dose data for the City of Chicago. Our data quality team utilizes this report to identify providers with a high number of irregular doses. We then work with these providers and collaborate with their EMR teams to make corrections in the IIS.
- ★ Our team typically contacts providers through email or phone calls. Once we receive a report detailing IIS errors specific to your site, we send an encrypted spreadsheet highlighting these mistakes. Additionally, we request a virtual meeting to discuss necessary correction and cleanup efforts.
- ★ If you receive an exclusion report, please review its findings. We generally ask providers to cross-reference our findings with their EMRs to verify irregular doses. Once confirmed, providers can make the corrections in the IIS. Please highlight any doses that you are unable to correct.



## REMEMBER TO:

- Prioritize reviewing recent data, as it may be easier to analyze and fix than older data.
- To identify data quality issues within your organization, review CDC functional standards.

## CONTACT US

[ChicagoVFC@cityofchicago.org](mailto:ChicagoVFC@cityofchicago.org)

Request for immunization records email:  
[GetvaxChi@cityofchicago.org](mailto:GetvaxChi@cityofchicago.org)

2160 West Ogden  
Chicago, IL 60612