

PRESS RELEASE

May 6, 2004

MASON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

411 NORTH 5TH ST

SHELTON, WA 98584

(360) 427-9670 EXT. 747

TO: KMAS, KRXY, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN, SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE SUN

RE: Mason County Department of Health Services recognizes Oakland Bay Pediatrics for outstanding achievement.

The Mason County Department of Health Services recognizes the outstanding achievement by Oakland Bay Pediatrics for attaining an 82% immunization rate in 2003. This rate is for the 4:3:1:3:3 (4-DTaP, 3-Polio, 1-MMR, 3-HIB, 3-Hep-B) immunization series in the 19-35 month age range. This evaluation was done using an immunization assessment software program developed by the Centers for Disease Control and promoted through the Department of Health Immunization Program. Mason County Department of Health Services, Immunization Program, completes yearly assessments on medical providers who participate in the state and federal funded Vaccines for Children program.

This immunization rate far surpasses both state and national immunization rates for 2002. The National Immunization Survey for 2002 places Washington State at 69.2% and the national rate at 74.8% for the 4:3:1:3:3 immunization series.

Oakland Bay Pediatrics has been outstanding in their diligence to appropriately immunize their 19-35 month old patients, missing no opportunity to administer all the age specific vaccines that the patient is eligible to receive according to the Recommended Childhood Immunization Schedule.

Appropriately immunizing each patient is a group effort and this busy practice routinely screens the patient's immunization status with each office visit. Linda Deyette, LPN has taken it upon herself to become knowledgeable regarding the numerous aspects involving immunizations and should be commended for her vaccine and record management. It is important to stress that successfully immunizing patients requires the "buy-in" of the entire medical staff, from reception through billing.

The Department of Health Immunization Program, along with Mason County Department of Health Services, and the Mason County Board of Health, extends a much deserved thank-you to Oakland Bay Pediatrics for helping to assure that the children of Mason County have the best opportunity to be protected from vaccine-preventable diseases.

MASON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

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