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Vaccination survey results presented to community

(ASHLAND) Results from the Community Vaccination Survey will be presented to Ashland residents on October 22, 2003, 7:00 p.m. at the Ashland Middle School Library. "Many parents told us in their responses that they wanted to hear the results of the survey. We're honoring that obligation by presenting the results in a community meeting," says Dr. Jim Shames, Jackson County Health Officer. All interested Ashland residents are invited to attend the presentation.

Designed to explore what Ashland parents perceive about the risks and benefits of immunizing school children, the Community Vaccination Survey (CVS) was a joint effort of the Jackson County Health Department, the Ashland School District, and the Oregon Immunization Program.

"Some of the results are surprising," says Dr. Shames. Although fifty-six percent of parents answered that it is important for kids to get all recommended vaccinations, twenty-three percent were uncertain, and twenty-one percent disagreed. "It's clear that though the majority of Ashland residents do vaccinate their children, parents have concerns and they need to be addressed," says Dr. Shames. "This presentation of the survey results is the first step in giving parents the information they need to make informed decisions."

The report of survey results and an accompanying executive summary will be posted on the Jackson County website at www.jacksoncounty.org.