LINDA PRIETO. SUPERVISING MEDICAL ASSISTANT

Linda Prieto, supervising medical assistant for Neighborhood Healthcare in Temecula, enjoys helping patients. As an immunization registry champion, she can help them faster and easier.

As Linda explains it, before using the registry tracking down a patient’s immunization record used to be a big hassle. Looking for one old record would mean first checking the previous provider’s office, then getting the parent to sign a record release, and finally waiting for the other office to fax over the record. “It’s so much better with the registry. It used to take 20 minutes to get a patient’s record. Now it’s less than five minutes.”

Linda is eager to tell other medical assistants that the immunization registry has made her job “easy, faster and more efficient.” She also says it’s “less than five minutes” to add a new patient record or enter historical data. Updating an existing patient is even faster.

It’s easy for Linda is get enthusiastic when talking about the registry. Her favorite part? “That I don’t have to repeat kids’ shots!”

Another feature Linda likes is the reminder postcards. “It saves us time because the registry handles our reminder postcards for us now.”

Work goes more smoothly these days and Linda thinks the immunization registry is a big part of that difference. When asked if she would ever go back to an office that doesn’t use the registry, “No way!” she says.