

Vaccination of Older Adults: Patient and Provider Issues

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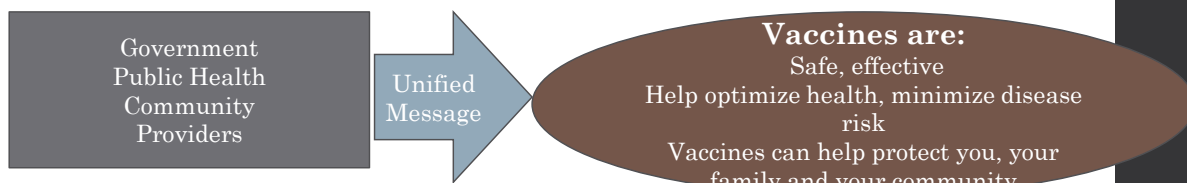
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Community Immunity [~ Herd Immunity]

- Immunization of a majority of a population protects those vaccinated and a proportion of the unvaccinated by limiting disease spread...
- Implications at all levels of society
 - Unvaccinated 'cul-de-sac' in a highly vaccinated city
 - Vaccine effectiveness, how contagious the disease is and vaccination rate all affect Community Immunity
 - Gradual decline in vaccination will leave more vulnerable to outbreak
- Persons at increased individual risk are the most 'at risk..' in any scenario

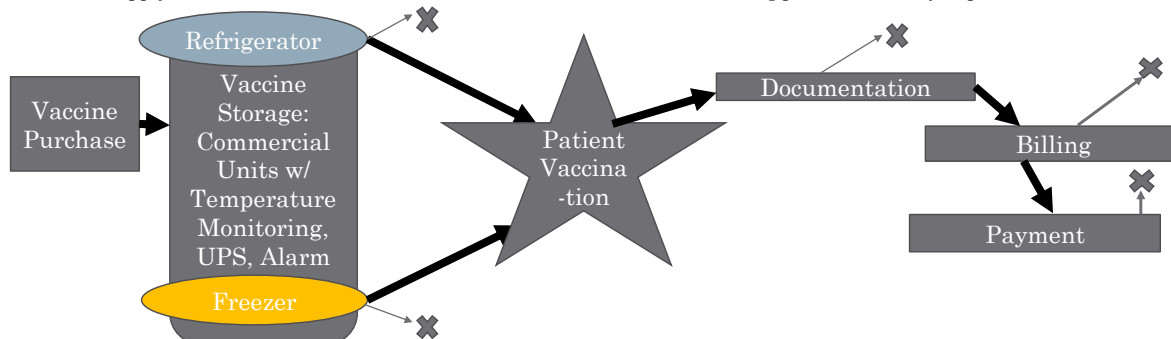
Vaccine Hesitancy and Anti-Vaccine

- Issue going back to 17th Century when Jenner introduced Smallpox vaccine
- Many reasons patients are hesitant and/or refuse
- To maximize value of immunization to individuals and society
 - High vaccination rates for all vaccine-preventable diseases are needed



Vaccine Supply and Demand

- Vaccines can be ordered from a number of different suppliers
 - Costs can vary significantly, most require payment on order
 - ‘Supply chain and administration effectiveness’ are critical to vaccinating providers’ ability to provide vaccines



- What is reimbursed for vaccines and vaccine administration fees are published by CMS
Most private insurers base their payment on CMS/Medicare rates.
- With good match between vaccine usage, efficient work process, effective reimbursement a practice can break even or make a few \$\$ with vaccination

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Part-B-Drugs/McrPartBDrugAvgSalesPrice/VaccinesPricing.html>

Provider Offices and Clinics 1

Increased provider vaccination translates into:

Patient safety:	Lower patient risk
Provider safety:	Lower absenteeism, 'inefficiency'
Community safety:	Reduce transmission

While provider uptake **should be** 'a given,' it is not...

We have achieved gains; yet HCP rates still not consistently to goal levels, even with support of specialty organizations and mandates.

BEST PRACTICE #1:

- HCP INSURE ENTIRE TEAM IS VACCINATED [MEASURE, REPORT +/- MANDATE].
- ASSURE TEAM MEMBERS UNDERSTAND VALUE AND BENEFITS OF VACCINATION
- VACCINATE PATIENTS AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY OR VISIT TYPE

Provider Offices and Clinics 2

Challenges:

- Vaccine availability
- Office team buy-in
- Immunize without breaking [something else]
- Financial concerns-Vaccine coverage [esp. Shingles, Tdap in seniors]
- Information flow [Quality reporting, outside vaccination info]
- Competing demands within fixed time/resources

BEST PRACTICE #2: OFFICE

- DESIGNATE A VACCINATION CHAMPION
- PROVIDE TEAM BASED VACCINATION USING STANDING ORDERS, SET 'VACCINE CLINICS,' PARTNER WITH COMMUNITY VACCINATORS

Hospitals

Challenges:

- Competing demands within fixed time/resources
- Timing and maximizing benefits in 'sick' inpatients
- Effective use of Vaccine resources [Td/Tdap, Influenza,
Pneumococcal are primary hospital vaccines in seniors]
- Vaccine availability
- Information flow

BEST PRACTICE #3: HOSPITAL

- EDUCATED AND FULLY VACCINATED STAFF
- STANDING ORDERS AND PROCEDURES [BUILT INTO EMR] WITH AUTOMATED REPORTING TO REGISTRY
- VACCINATE [Employees, Patients] EARLY AND OFTEN
- INCLUDE NONTRADITIONAL SITES [PACU, ADMISSION, VACCINE CARTS/CLINICS]

Long Term Care

Challenges:

- Competing demands within fixed/ relatively low resources
- Resistance [staff, family, patient]
- Mandates [Vary by state, may/not facilitate vaccine acquisition]
- Vaccine information flow

BEST PRACTICE #4: LONG-TERM CARE

- EDUCATED AND FULLY VACCINATED STAFF.
- ADMISSION VACCINATION BY STANDING ORDER.
- COLLABORATION WITH COMMUNITY IMMUNIZERS.
- ENGAGE REGISTRY HOLDERS TO ASSURE TRANSPARENT REPORTING WORKFLOW.

Community

Communication and sustaining messages:

HIGH Value + LOW Risk → Overcome resistance

Immunizing the 'unworried well'

Vaccine availability esp. in rural and low-resource areas

Staffing

Immunization Neighborhood

Information flow

BEST PRACTICE #5: COMMUNITY

- INFORM AND EDUCATE COMMUNITY LEADERS, PRESS.

- FACILITATE IMMUNIZATION NEIGHBORHOOD

Vaccination collaboration including public health, medical homes, hospitals, pharmacies, community immunizers, etc.

Resources

<https://www.adultvaccinesnow.org/>

<https://www.acponline.org/clinical-information/clinical-resources-products/adult-immunization>

<http://www.adultvaccination.org/cai>

<http://www.immunize.org/>

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