Best Practices
for Increasing Influenza Vaccination Levels among Healthcare Workers

Facility: Fletcher Allen Health Care
111 Colchester Avenue
Burlington, VT 05401

Type of Facility: Hospital

Methods:
• Program has been on-going for many years
• Added influenza “champions” during 2007-08 season in various nursing-unit based sites, resulting in positive feedback and improvement in vaccination rates (average increase of 23% in unit-based sites; some units increased from 5-90%)
• Information on influenza disease and vaccine provided by Infection Control/Employee Health staff
• Employees given information via facility newspaper, weekly email updates
• Used multiple venues to give vaccine (e.g., nursing units, satellite offices and open clinics scheduled during all three shifts, beginning at 6:30 A.M. through 5 P.M.)
• Following clinics, staff continued to schedule vaccination with Employee Health office in to spring
• New hires offered vaccination at health screenings
• Employer covers costs of program

Benefits:
Nursing unit staff appreciated opportunity to receive vaccine at their convenience and given by a co-worker.

Results:
• Vaccination rate in 2006-07 season: 42%
• Vaccination rate in 2007-08 season: 58% (49% in unit-based sites, 71% in satellite sites)
• Number of employees vaccinated: 4,355

Tools:
• Computer module to document vaccine administered at other venues (e.g., PCP visit)
• Standing orders for administering influenza vaccine to employees and volunteers
• Educational packets given to vaccine administrators

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