Best Practices
for Increasing Influenza Vaccination Levels among Healthcare Workers

Facility: Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula
23645 Holman Highway
Monterey, CA 93940

Type of Facility: Hospital, Nursing Home, Home Health Agency

Methods:
• Provided information about the program via posters, webpage, online module.
• Vaccine nurse floated daily with rolling cart to units for one month.
• Added drop-in clinics near cafeteria and in infection control office.
• Employees fearful of shots were seated in a “comfy” chair while a second nurse talked with them about their best vacation (distraction technique) and offered TLC.
• Infection control staff available at clinics to provide factual information to counter myths.
• Participation in program is voluntary; no declination form required.
• Will be adding declination form for the 2008-09 program.
• Employer covered costs of program

Results:
• Vaccination rate in 2005-06 season: 61%
• Vaccination rate in 2006-07 season: 71%
• Vaccination rate in 2007-08 season: 61% (plus an additional 600 vaccinees among physicians, volunteers, contract workers, and others)

Unexpected benefits:
• Program provided multiple opportunities for “teachable moments” between infection control staff and employees in a positive, fun environment.
• Once previously unvaccinated employees became “converted,” they were more likely to return the following year.

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