

# Best Practices

## for Increasing Influenza Vaccination Levels among Healthcare Workers

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**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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## Prevent Influenza Now!

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