Best Practices
for Increasing Influenza Vaccination Levels among Healthcare Workers

Facility: Neosho Memorial Regional Medical Center (NMRMC)
629 South Plummer Avenue
Chanute, KS 66720

Type of Facility: Hospital

Methods:
• Conducted program as exercise for disaster preparedness
• Collaborative program with nursing staff from infection control, employee health, emergency
  room, risk management, cardiac rehab; staff from respiratory care and dietary
• Held clinics on four different days
• Dietary supplied chocolate fountain with strawberries, marshmallows, pretzels, and pineapple
  for dipping (created good memories by allowing them to have their chocolate before the injection
  for the endorphin benefit)
• Used rolling carts to deliver vaccine to those unable to attend clinics
• Employees not vaccinated were required to sign declination forms
• Expanded program to include employees’ families when vaccine supply exceeded employee
  target
• Employer covers costs of program
• Respiratory care staff completed required TB mask fit tests on OSHA category I and II employees

Results:
• Vaccination rate in 2007-08 season: 87% (265 of 304 eligible employees)
• Absenteeism during height of influenza season peaked among employees at a low 4%!

Tools:
• Standing Orders for Administering Influenza Vaccine to Employees/Volunteers of NMRMC
• Declination of Influenza Vaccination form

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