“I believe that an influenza shot can give me influenza or make me sick”

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American Nurses Association
Myths and Facts

- Important to address the myths
- Barriers to receiving vaccine
- Increase confidence in vaccine
- Understand influenza
- Understand vaccines
  - Injectable inactivated vaccine – TIV
  - Live attenuated influenza vaccine – LAIV
- Common Reactions
- Serious reactions – very rare
- Patient safety issue
ANA’s Everyone Deserves A Shot at Fighting the Flu (2005)

- Concern of unacceptable low rates of vaccination amongst RN & other HCW
- Survey of ANA members
  - Campaign funded by GlaxoSmithKline
  - N=151
- Education component
- Access to vaccine and information
  - Supply issues
- Employer support
ANA: Barriers to HCP Influenza Vaccination

- Fear of vaccine side effects
- Insufficient time or inconvenience
- Perceived ineffectiveness of the vaccine
- Perceived low likelihood of contracting influenza
- Reliance on treatment with homeopathic medications
- Avoidance of medications
- Fear of needles
- Too expensive
- Shortage of vaccine
- Required annually
Barriers to Co-Workers’ Vaccination

The most common perceived barrier to co-worker vaccination is concern for side effects. Uncertainty about effectiveness, believed insusceptibility and shortage of vaccines were also mentioned with fair frequency.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Greatest Barrier</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concern about side effects</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t think the vaccine is effective at preventing Influenza</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They don’t think they are at risk for getting Influenza</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shortage of vaccines</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The vaccine becomes available too late in the season</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place of work gives the vaccines at inconvenient times</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of time</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Believe having to get re-vaccinated each year is a bother</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They think they will get sick from the shot</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allergies</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place of work does not provide the vaccine for them</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is not covered by their insurance policy</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too expensive</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Base: Some coworkers were not vaccinated against influenza last year (n=143)
ANA/CDC Barrier Comparison

- **ANA Barriers**
  - Fear of vaccine side effects
  - Insufficient time or inconvenience
  - Perceived ineffectiveness of the vaccine
  - Perceived low likelihood of contracting influenza
  - Reliance on treatment with homeopathic medications
  - Avoidance of medications
  - Fear of needles
  - Too expensive
  - Shortage of vaccine
  - Required annually

- **CDC Barriers**
  - Fear of vaccine side effects
  - Insufficient time or inconvenience
  - Perceived ineffectiveness of vaccine
  - Medical contraindication
  - Perceived low likelihood of catching influenza
  - Reliance on treatment with homeopathic medications
  - Avoidance of medications
  - Fear of needles
Other ANA initiatives

- Recognition Campaign for “Best Practices in Seasonal Influenza Immunization Programs”
- Partnered with sanofi pasteur
- Developed brochure
- Articles written
- Recognition awards given
Brochure

www.nursingworld.org

Best Practices in Seasonal Influenza Immunization Programs for Health Care Personnel

Call (800) 274-4ANA
and ask for information about joining your state nurses association.

American Nurses Association

Best Practices in Seasonal Influenza Immunization Programs for Health Care Personnel

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Communication and Education
- Develop a campaign slogan and logo.
- Provide communication and education via a wide array of tactics including mass email, newsletters, conference, health fairs, staff meetings, mandatory events, fliers, posters, banners, bulletin boards, presentations, internet, and screen savers.
- Mandate computer-based learning modules.

Planning and Tracking
- Develop a multidisciplinary group on the planning committee such as Nursing leadership, Employee Health, Epidemiology, Infection Control, Pharmacy, Risk Management and Hospital Administration.
- Track in an ongoing database providing results to department managers and key leaderships.
- Consider using mandatory education forms to identify reasons to refuse vaccine.
- Conduct a post-campaign evaluation, including recommendations for the following influenza season.

Administrative
- Offer vaccinations at a variety of times including all shifts and weekends, during work hours.
- Extend coverage by using mobile units in high traffic areas such as the cafeteria, at health fairs, conferences, meetings, and on nursing units.
- Designate nurses on each unit to provide vaccination to coworkers.
- Provide vaccinations free of cost to all employees, including part-time and contract workers, as well as volunteers.
- Provide incentives such as candy, t-shirts, or competition between departments.

References
- American Nurses Association. Everyone Deserves a Shot at Fighting Flu, 2005

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ANA Initiatives Continued

- 2006 House of Delegates resolution, “Pandemic and Seasonal Influenza”
- Presentations
- Posters
  - Seasonal and Pandemic Influenza Summit
- Collaboration
  - CSL Biotherapies
  - National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID)
- Influenza Backgrounder Annually
- Website information