

National Adult Immunization Summit

Report from Expanding Collaboration and Increasing Access Working Group

Working Group Co-leads:
Carolyn Bridges, CDC
Mitchel Rothholz, APhA
Kathy Talkington, ASTHO
Litjen Tan, AMA

1

Working Group Membership and Information Collection

American Academy of Family Physicians	Association of State and Territorial Health Officials	Maxim Health Systems
American Academy of Physician Assistants	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations
American Medical Association	Convenient Care Association	MedImmune
American Nurses Association	Corporate Wellness, Inc.	Novartis
American Pharmacists Association	The Gerontological Society of America	National Association of County and City Health Officials
Association of Immunization Managers	GlaxoSmithKline	National Vaccine Program Office

- WG gathered input on barriers and possible solutions from members and federal agencies, as well as existing collaborations.

2

What's in Place?

- Adults access medical care at multiple entry points.
- There are many types of immunization providers and sites. (including, but not limited to, physicians – generalists and specialists, pharmacists, nurses, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, retail stores and clinics, community immunizers, worksites, public health departments, hospitals, travel clinics)
- Many more adults have become aware of annual influenza vaccination, but fewer are aware of other recommended adult vaccines.
- Vaccine providers are paid different rates by different payers. Not all providers vaccinate. Pay can differ based on in-network status.
- There are opportunities in the Affordable Care Act to reduce the number of uninsured adults (pending action in June).
- There is no federal “Vaccines for Adults” program.
- Manufacturers offer Patient Assistance Programs.
- Immunization registries and EHRs vary across states and provider networks, respectively.

3

What Needs to be in Place?

- Collaboration within the “immunization medical neighborhood”
 - Raise awareness of the full range of providers (specialists, collaborative referral)
 - Reduce opposition to expansion of scope of work
 - Reduce missed opportunities to vaccinate adults and give all needed vaccines
- Payment
 - Determine whether current levels of payment for services is a barrier for providers (what is the cost of providing immunization services to adults?)
 - Patient and provider understanding of in-network vs. out-of-network
 - Research payment for counseling & referral by non-vaccine providers
 - Reduce out-of-pocket costs for patients
 - Access for uninsured adults
- Documentation
 - Lifetime immunization registries that are opt-out
 - Establish and promote models of “ideal” data exchange, documentation, and communication
 - Promote immunization requirements in meaningful use standards
- State laws and policies*

4

Actionable Items

Possible Solution/Project	Barrier Addressed
Develop adult vaccine finder/locator or build upon existing vaccine finders to incorporate all adult vaccine providers	Collaboration
Develop model protocols for a community that include all types of providers and settings	Collaboration
Convene regional meetings of leaders from different sectors of adult immunization	Collaboration
Develop and promote vaccine counseling and referral code	Payment
Gather systematic data on cost of providing adult vaccination	Payment
Promote models for smaller providers to acquire vaccines at lower costs	Payment
Help providers better understand best coding practices	Payment
Develop and promote models of “ideal” data exchange	Documentation
Promote immunization requirements in meaningful use standards	Documentation
Access for uninsured adults??	Access & Payment

5

Discussion

- Are there other high priority needs/actions not already mentioned in working group summary?
- Are these the right priorities?
- Who can take the lead and/or assist in accomplishing identified priorities?
- *Other ways to provide feedback:*
 - *Poster: provide comments on Post-it notes*
 - *Feedback form: indicate which WGs you are interested in participating in & provide additional feedback on barriers and solutions*

6