

School-located Vaccinations: A Strategy Whose Time is Now

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Atlanta, GA



NACCHO
National Association of County & City Health Officials

School-located vaccinations: Why bother?

- Economic burden of flu
- Impact on children
- Impact of immunizing children
- Willie Sutton's rationale for looking at the SLV strategy
- SLV as practice for "The Big One"



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Support for the SLV Strategy

- Medical Societies
- Local Health Departments
- Professional Education Groups
- School Officials
- School Nurses
- Parents



Advantages of Using the Schools for Immunizations

- Historical precedence
- Easy access by geography and for scheduling purposes
- Trusted institutions
- Financial advantages of increased immunization levels
- Improve emergency response capacity
- ? Normalize immunizations through a multi-faceted, coordinated educational campaign



Current Roadblocks to the SLV Strategy

- Local control of schools
- Cultural issues/practices/beliefs
 - Disruptions of the educational atmosphere
 - Focus on the curriculum
 - Parental concerns re: safety of vaccine
- Student vaccination needs vary
- Not all students are easy to reach
- Links with IIS and medical homes
- Funding needs to be sustainable



The road from here

- Identify policy changes needed to maximize connections with the IIS'
- Sustainable funding
 - Pressures on 317 funds
- Shot-givers become in-network providers
 - Concerted support for SLV from educational organizations, medical societies, public health, elected leaders, regulators to prompt third party payers

