

# Updating the NVAC Adult Immunization Standards of Practice

- Summit Access and Collaboration WG established a writing subcommittee
- Subcommittee reviewed existing standards of adult immunization practices (eg. IDSA-2007, NVAC-2003) and developed and refined multiple drafts
- NVAC agreed to review draft standards in June 2013, and **voted to approve the updated Standards** its September 2013 NVAC meeting
- Available online at:  
<http://www.hhs.gov/nvpo/nvac/reports/nvacstandards.pdf>
- Will be published in *Public Health Reports* in March 2014

# Fundamental Paradigm Shift in Adult IZ

- Adult immunization standards should be applied to all providers of care to adults, those who do and do not vaccinate
- New standards recognize the importance of the healthcare provider recommendation for patients to receive needed vaccines
- Highlights the current low vaccination rates among U.S. adults
- Reflects the changed environment within which adult vaccines are now given

# Fundamental Paradigm Shift in Adult IZ

ALL providers of health care to adults are to:

1. Routinely assess patient's status for all recommended vaccines;
2. Educate and counsel the patient on the recommended vaccines and strongly recommend needed vaccines; and,
3. Ideally, provide the recommended vaccines at the same visit, or for providers that do not stock the recommended vaccine, refer the patient to a vaccinating provider.

# Framework

## Adult Immunization Standards

### All Providers

- Emphasize IZ in all patient encounters and incorporate IZ needs assessment into every clinical encounter.
- Recommend, administer needed vaccine or refer to a provider who can immunize.
- Stay up-to-date and educate patients.
- Implement systems to incorporate vaccine assessment into routine clinical care.
- Understand how to access registries.

### Non-immunizing Providers

- Routinely assess immunization status of patients, recommend needed vaccines and refer patient to an immunizing provider.
- Establish referral relationships with immunizing providers.
- Follow up to confirm patient receipt of recommended vaccine(s).

### Immunization Providers

- Observe and adhere to professional competencies regarding immunizations.
- Assess immunization status in every patient care and counseling encounter and strongly recommend needed vaccines.
- Ensure receipt of vaccination is documented.

# Framework

## Adult Immunization Standards

Professional healthcare  
related organizations /  
associations/healthcare  
systems

- Education and training of members, including trainees
- Resources and assistance to implement protocols, immunization practices, immunization assessment, etc
- Encourage members to be up-to-date on own immunizations
- Assist members in staying up-to-date on IZ info & recommendations
- Partner with others immunization stakeholders to educate the public
- Seek out collaboration opportunities with other immunization stakeholders
- Collect and share best practices
- Advocate policies that support adult immunization standards

Public Health  
Departments

- Determine community needs and capacity and community barriers to adult IZ
- Support activities and policies to increase vaccination rates and reduce barriers
- Ensure professional competency
- Collect, analyze and disseminate data
- Outreach and education to public and providers
- Work to decrease disparities
- Increase registry access and use
- Develop billing capacities
- Ensure preparedness, communicate vaccine information to providers and to the public
- Promote adherence to laws and regulations pertaining to immunizations