Barriers Preventing Nurses from Promoting Universal Vaccinations to All Adults

Chad Rittle, DNP, MPH, RN, FAAOHN, and Ruth Francis, MPH, MCHES—American Nurses Association

ANA
AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION

INTRODUCTION

Nurse immunization champions are defined as people or programs that improve immunization rates in community clinics and private practices. American Nurses Association (ANA) wants to ensure that nurse champions have the tools necessary to be successful in their immunization practice.

GOAL

To assess the needs of nurses in various practice settings and develop programs to aid them in implementing CDC's standards leading to the full immunization of adults

OBJECTIVES

- To determine the demographics and practice settings of nurses surveyed;
- To identify the needs of nurse champions;
- To describe the barriers preventing nurses from becoming successful as immunizers; and
- To develop and promote the resources needed to educate adults about vaccines.

SURVEY DYNAMICS

A 15-question survey was developed and delivered to 6,000+ nurses in March-April 2017.

RATIONALE FOR SURVEY

Lessons learned from the previous position statement poster:

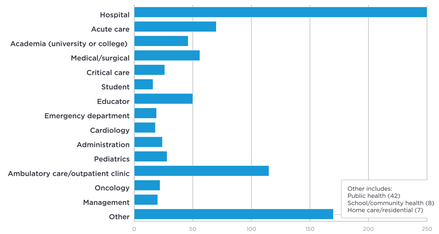
- A more strategic promotion effort is needed through a variety of media outlets.
- It takes time for immunization messages to be instilled into practice.
- Collaboration with other health care organizations spreads the immunization message further.
- Seek out immunization nurse champions to extend messages to patients.

AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION

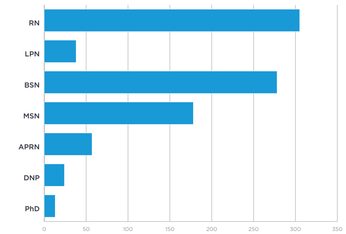
ANA is the premier organization representing the interests of the nation's 3.6 million registered nurses. ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting a safe and ethical work environment, bolstering the health and wellness of nurses, and advocating on health care issues that affect nurses and the public. ANA is at the forefront of improving the quality of health care for all.

KEY DEMOGRAPHICS

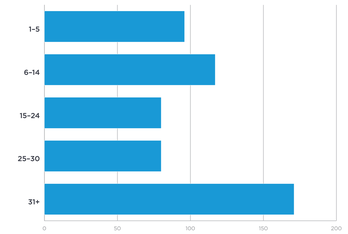
WHAT IS YOUR PRACTICE SETTING?



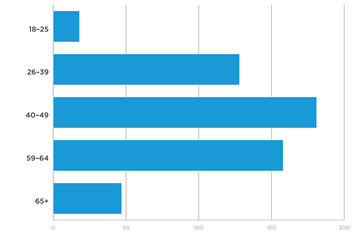
WHAT IS YOUR ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE?



HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU BEEN A REGISTERED NURSE?

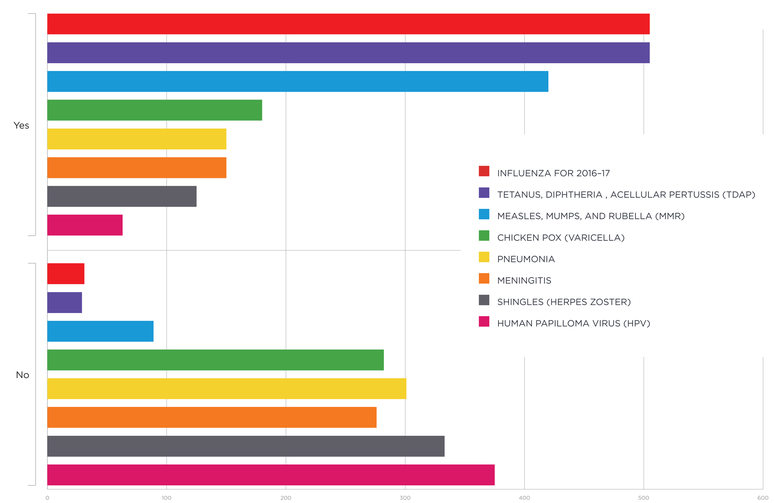


WHAT IS YOUR AGE?

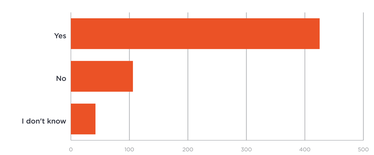


RESULTS

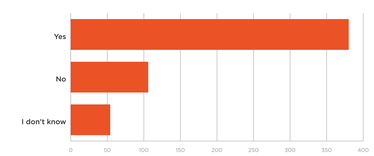
PLEASE CHECK THE FOLLOWING ADULT VACCINES YOU HAVE RECEIVED:



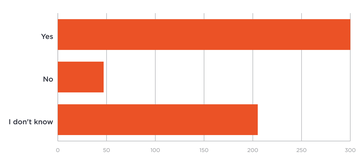
DOES YOUR FACILITY HAVE STANDING ORDERS FOR NURSES TO PROVIDE IMMUNIZATIONS?



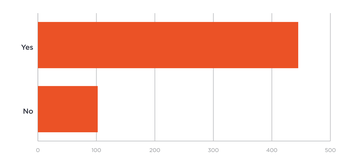
DOES YOUR FACILITY USE REMINDERS AND RECALLS TO PROMOTE IMMUNIZATIONS TO PATIENTS?



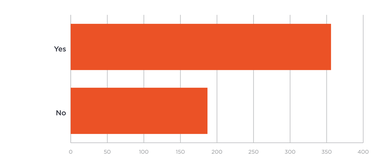
IS YOUR FACILITY SIGNED UP WITH YOUR STATE'S IMMUNIZATION REGISTRY?



DO ALL PROVIDERS USE ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS IN YOUR FACILITY?



IS THE PATIENT'S VACCINATION HISTORY REVIEWED AND DISCUSSED AT EACH CLINICAL ENCOUNTER?



RESOURCES NEEDED

1. Education, in service, training, assessment, CE programs for nurses, updates, state-specific information, skill-building, benefits, process.
2. Information on IAC, CDC, Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC).
3. Information to respond to vaccine hesitancy and patients with anti-vaccine questions.
4. Easy references, cheat sheets, pocket cards, flyers, templates, information sheets.
5. Information on the importance of promoting vaccines.
6. A state registry for adults.
7. Patient access to registry.
8. Prompts, reminder/recall app.
9. Information on proof that vaccines work.
10. Patient incentives for vaccines.

CONCLUSIONS

- Increase nursing awareness of available resources, including CDC, IAC, APIC, and others.
- Increase promotion and utilization of state registries by providers.
- Provide adults access to state registry records.
- Provide training/skill/webinar/update opportunities.
- Promote and utilize other immunization champions in the community.