

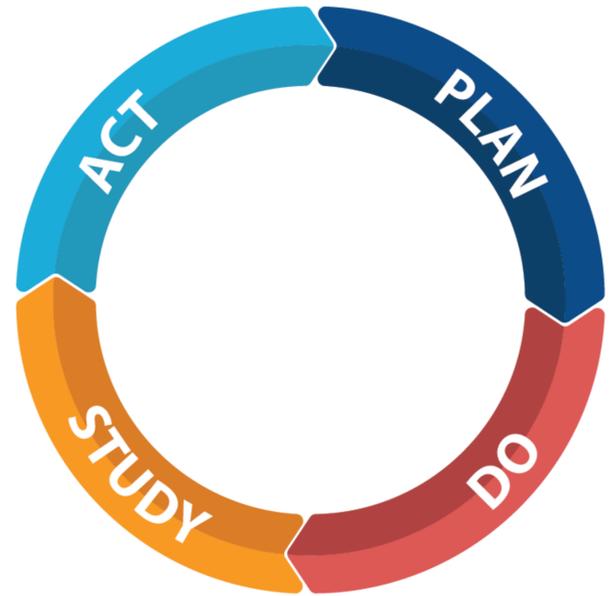
Adult Immunizations

Stewart Health Committee: A Rural County Immunization Improvement Pilot Project



Stewart County is rural, with approximately 700 Medicare beneficiaries and the influenza and pneumonia immunization rates fall well below the state average. Alliant Quality collaborated with stakeholders in Stewart County on developing a plan to improve their influenza and pneumococcal immunization rates. A group was formed to focus on vaccinations rates and other local health concerns.

The committee was formed and included three of the seven health providers in Stewart County: the health department nurse; an independent pharmacist; the FQHC nurse practitioner and the Family Connections Coordinator.



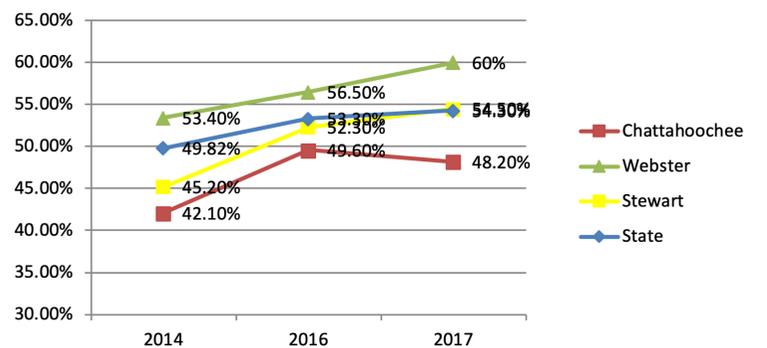
Activities & Efforts

- Goal setting meetings, partner identification and planning sessions. Meetings were held in-person monthly for three months and by phone afterwards.
- Technical assistance with PDSA cycles to pharmacists and nurse practitioners. The focus was improving immunization practices, patient assessments and use of the Immunization Information System (Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and Services- GRITS).
- Working with Family Connections partners, planning and participating in a health/resource fair.
- Announcements in local paper.
- Social media to promote events.
- Increased referrals to one another.

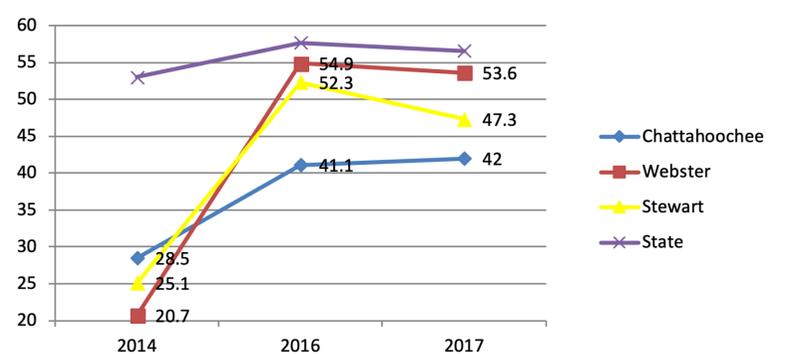
Successes

- A provider that was unable to participate started providing some immunizations and referring for others.
- A provider who declined initially asked to be included on information being sharing and improved their immunization services.
- Team members stated a better understanding of abilities and limitations, based on insurance, special programs, etc.
- The health department nurse manager reported a feeling of shared concern and effort "There is a "we" instead of just "me.""
- Two adjacent counties, primarily served by the same providers, demonstrated increased rates.

Pilot – Influenza Rates



Pilot – Pneumococcal



Admission PCV Rates

