

# Immunizations for Uninsured Adults: Referrals from Free Clinics to Health Departments

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## Disclosures

- I have directed my financial advisor to exclude vaccine manufacturers from my portfolio.
- Opinions expressed are NOT those of Immunize Milwaukee!, the University of Wisconsin, the City of Milwaukee Health Department, or the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- ACIP recommendations are standard of care and scientifically supported, but occasionally differ with indications for use approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration.

## Vaccinating Uninsured Adults in Milwaukee

Partners' Roles in 2018 - 2019 pilot:

- Immunization Coalition - Convene, write grants
- Free Clinic - Identify & refer diabetics for PPSV23
- Local Health Department - Nurses at free clinic weekly
- State Health Department - 317 funded vaccines

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## Adult Vaccines for Free Clinic Patients

- Pneumococcal: PPSV23 for 19-64 yo, smokers, diabetics
- Influenza: Chain pharmacists at events for groups of 50+
- Tdap: Outbreak coverage at health departments
- Hepatitis A: Vaccinate homeless to prevent outbreaks
- Hepatitis B: New adjuvanted, 2-dose vaccine in drug Rx
- HPV: Patient assistance programs versus health depts
- Zoster: Patient assistance programs, not at health depts

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## Cost of Administering Vaccines: Free clinics may not have resources

- Vaccine purchase
  - Ordering
  - Tracking inventory
- Vaccine storage
  - Refrigerator, freezer
  - Back-up power, alarms
  - Insurance
- Vaccine administration
  - Staff time
  - Supplies
  - Documentation
  - Determining billing

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As you all know already ...

## Section 317 of Public Health Service Act: Eligibility

Pays for vaccines given by local health departments to ...

- Uninsured adults (Medicaid = insurance for adults)
- Underinsured adults
  - No coverage immunizations or only covers select vaccines
  - Medicare recipients in donut hole
  - American Indians and Alaska Natives who can't access vaccines through Indian Health Service
- Fully insured adults during public health events:
  - Outbreaks, Post-exposure prophylaxis, Disaster relief
- Adults in correctional facilities or jails

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## MHD Walk-in Clinics for 317-funded Vaccines

Location	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Keenan Health Center</b> 3200 N 36th St.					8 - 11 am
<b>Northwest Health Center</b> 7630 W Mill Rd.			3 - 6 pm		
<b>Southside Health Center</b> 1639 S 23rd St.	3 - 6 pm	1 - 4 pm			

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## Draft Referral Criteria (Milwaukee): Free Clinic to Health Department or PAP

Because stationing public health nurses at free clinics is probably not sustainable, refer to HD or PAP

Health Department (HD):

- Adults must have no insurance for the requested immunizations
- Child <18 can be on Medicaid
- Refer to health dept of city or county where patient resides
- Some health depts charge \$15 administration fee per vaccine

Patient Assistance Program (PAP)

- If Uninsured and vaccine not carried at health department
- Complete Patient Assistance form, do not complete provider section
- Provider will be at administering free clinic, not referring clinic
- Vaccine will be shipped to administering clinic
- Must meet the requirements of the Patient Assistance Application (Social Security Number, income)

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Assess at free clinic & refer to health department

## Standards for Adult Immunization Practice

**Call to action for healthcare professionals for adults to**

- **ASSESS** vaccination status
  - all patients at
  - every clinical encounter
- **Strongly RECOMMEND** vaccines that patients need

**(National Vaccine Advisory Committee)**

- **ADMINISTER** needed vaccines or
  - REFER to a vaccine provider
- **DOCUMENT** vaccines received by patients in
  - state vaccine registries

[www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/adults/downloads/standards-immz-practice.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/adults/downloads/standards-immz-practice.pdf)

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