

# The Challenges of Vaccine Administration & Measurement in Primary Care

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# AAFP Represents Family Physicians

- American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)  
= The professional organization for family physicians in the United States.
- 55 chapters representing states, territories, and Uniformed Services.
- Family physicians provide comprehensive continuous primary health care to patients regardless of gender, age, or issue.



# Family Medicine

- AAFP Membership
  - 127,600 family physician members
- Family medicine is the most versatile of all physician specialties, providing comprehensive medical care to patients of all ages.
- Eighty-seven percent of active AAFP members are engaged in direct patient care at least 50% of the time.
- Approximately one in five of all office visits are made to family physicians. That is 193 million office visits each year-nearly 67 million more than the next largest medical specialty.



# AAFP Strategic Objective:

- Equip Members with Clinical Expertise to Improve Individual and Population Health:
  - *Take a leadership role to train family physicians in addressing health disparities and social determinants of health as they impact individuals, families, and communities across the lifespan and to strive for health equity.*

## IMMUNIZATIONS ARE A KEY STRATEGIC FOCUS

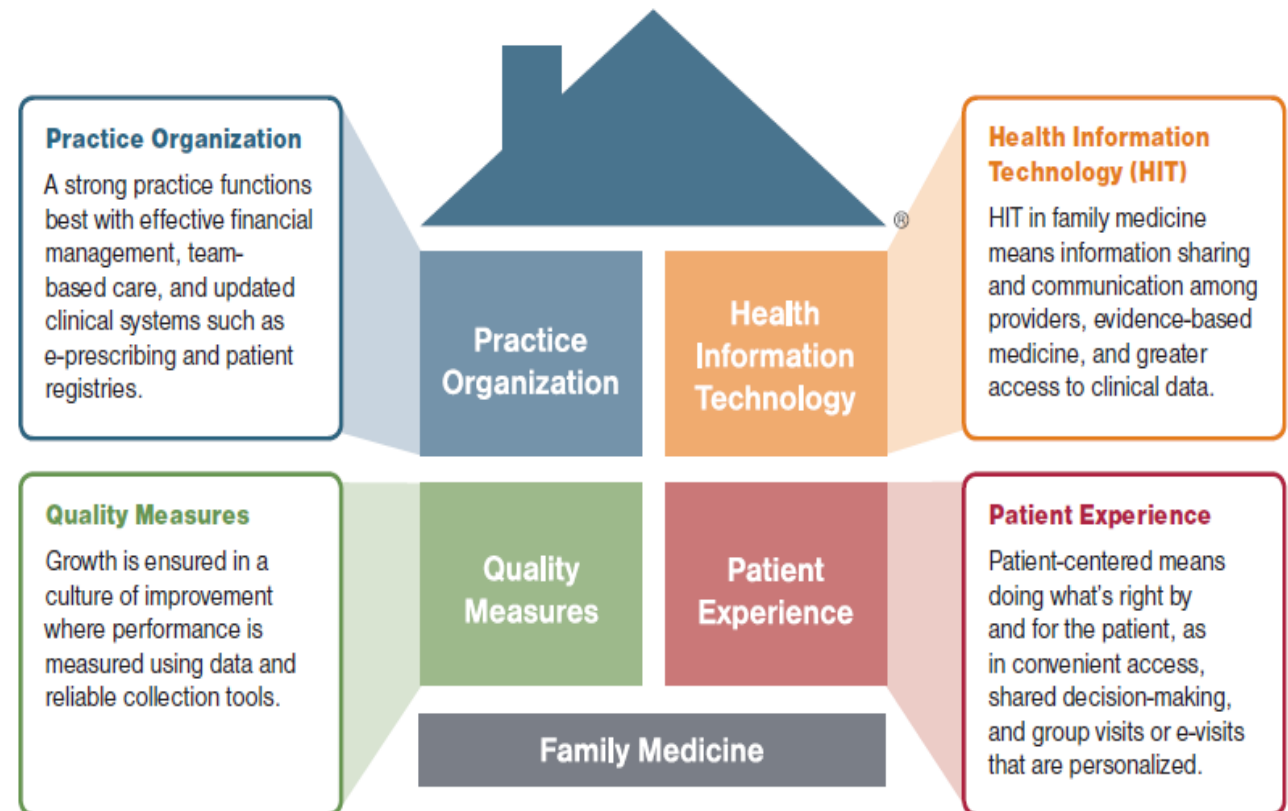


# AAFP Immunization Activities

## *Health of the Public and Science Division*

- Commission on Health of the Public and Science:
  - Immunization Policy Development
  - Immunization Schedules
  - General Recommendations, Measles, HPV, Influenza, HPV
- Liaisons/Collaborations:
  - Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
  - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
  - Immunization Action Coalition
  - AAP, ACP, ACOG, NVPO, NVAC, IDSA
- Immunization Advocacy Efforts:
  - White House/Governmental Meetings
  - Advocacy letters: Child & Adult immunizations, influenza, billing and payment, pneumococcal

## Immunizations within the PCMH



# Strengthening Immunization Awareness & Uptake



## Boost Adult Immunization Rates

Discover new strategies to increase vaccine confidence in underserved adult populations, including pregnant patients.

GET STARTED >>

Earn up to 21 Performance Improvement CME credits.



### Family Physician Education:

- Medical Education (Students & Residents)
- FMX (Family Medicine Experience Annual Meeting)
- Continuing Medical Education
- Self Study packages, Webinars, Live Courses
- Pandemic and Disaster Resources/Materials (i.e., COVID-19)

### Funded Projects:

- Vaccine Science Fellowship Program
- Office Champions Quality Improvement Projects
- Influenza Communication Campaigns
- COVID-19 Vaccination Communication Campaigns
- Maternal Immunizations
- Printing/Mailing Immunization Schedules
- Continuing Medical Education (CME) Activities
- Patient Educational Resources (Familydoctor.org)
- Immunization surveys and focus groups

# Response to Coronavirus (COVID-19)

- Member Engagement
- Dedicated Website
- Clinician and Patient Educational Resources
- Collaboration with partners
- Media Publications (i.e., news articles, social media)
- Townhalls
- CME Webinars

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the AAFP COVID-19 website. The browser's address bar shows the URL: [aafp.org/family-physician/patient-care/current-hot-topics/recent-outbreaks/covid-19.html](https://aafp.org/family-physician/patient-care/current-hot-topics/recent-outbreaks/covid-19.html). The website's navigation bar includes links for CME, Family Physician, Med Student & Resident, Events, Membership, Advocacy, and News. The main content area features the title "Respond to Coronavirus (COVID-19)" and a sub-header "Information to support your practice and patients." Below this, there are four highlighted sections: "MEMBER COMMUNITY", "COVID-19 VACCINES", "COVID-19 THERAPEUTICS", and "WELL-BEING RESOURCES". The "MEMBER COMMUNITY" section states that over 900 colleagues can be joined. The "COVID-19 VACCINES" section mentions updates on EUAs and recommendations. The "COVID-19 THERAPEUTICS" section refers to Monoclonal Antibodies. The "WELL-BEING RESOURCES" section offers support for stress and grief. Below these sections is a "The Latest News" section with a list of recent articles, including "FDA Expedites Vaccine Advisory Committee Dates", "Long COVID: The Next Fight in an Ongoing Battle", "CDC Health Alert - COVID-19 Rebound After Paxlovid Treatment", "CDC Recommends Booster Dose for Children 5-11 Years", "CDC Updates COVID-19 Vaccine Planning Guide for Children", "FDA Authorizes First Non-Prescription COVID-19 Test That Also Detects Flu, RSV", "FDA Expands Eligibility for Pfizer Vaccine Booster Dose to Children 5-11 Years", "White House Offers More Free COVID-19 Tests", and "Free Long COVID CME Course Now Available". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the time as 8:35 AM on 6/2/2022 and a temperature of 58°F.

# Other Relevant AAFP Strategic Objectives:

- Help Optimize Patient Care via Technology
- Reduce Administrative Complexity
- Increase Payment to Reflect Valuable Care FPs provide
- Advocacy – Be the most effective influencer on priority issues in governmental advocacy



# We Need to Remove Barriers!

- Vaccine availability for family practices
  - Distribution
  - Storage/refrigeration/audit challenges
- Insurance coverage
- Adequate reimbursement for PCPs
- Health IT infrastructure
- Quality & performance measurement
- Vaccine hesitancy among patients

# Medicare Coverage Beginning in 2023

Good news!

The Inflation Reduction Act improves coverage and lowers out-of-pocket costs of recommended vaccines in Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program:

- People with Medicare drug coverage will pay nothing out-of-pocket for adult vaccines recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), including the shingles and Tetanus-Diphtheria-Whooping Cough vaccines, starting in 2023.
- Most adults enrolled in Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program will be guaranteed coverage of ACIP-recommended vaccines at no cost to them, beginning October 1, 2023.

\*Oct. 5, 2022 CMS press release: [The Inflation Reduction Act Lowers Health Care Costs for Millions of Americans | CMS](#)

# Data Sharing & Interoperability

## ■ AAFP policy on Immunizations

- “When recommended vaccines are provided outside of the medical home all pertinent vaccine related information should be provided to the patient’s medical home.”

## ■ Vision and Principles of a Quality Measurement Strategy for Primary Care (Position Paper)

- Principle 6: There should be a principled redesign of health information technology that enables affordable, expansive, accessible aggregation of data, powerful analytics, and meaningful interpretation. Health IT should automate data collection and quality measurement, eliminating the need to self-report. Information should be pushed to clinicians and patients at a point in time when it is most useful for decision-making and action.”
  - “Issues of data ownership, interoperability, and data exchange must be resolved to allow the flow of information across disparate health information networks”

# AAFP Concerns with AIS-E Measure

In March of this year, we submitted comments to NCQA on [proposed changes to the existing Adult Immunization Status \(AIS-E\) measure and proposed retirements of three vaccination measures.](#)

- Data collection and data sharing
- Impact on PCP performance
  - “All-or-Nothing” makes this difficult
  - Admin burden of documenting exclusions and/or patient refusal
- While this measure is currently specified at the health plan level, CMS has indicated a desire to include a similar measure in MIPS in which performance would be assessed at the individual physician level (and payment will be impacted accordingly).

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AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

**STRONG MEDICINE FOR AMERICA**

# Appendix

# Immunization Quality Measures

(for Discussion)

- Adult Immunization Status (AIS-E)
- Prenatal Immunization Status

# Relevant AAFP Policies

## Policies: ([Aafp.org/policies](http://Aafp.org/policies))

- [Immunizations](#)
- [Vision and Principles of a Quality Measurement Strategy for Primary Care](#) (Position Paper)
- [Information Technology Used in Health Care](#)
- [Performance Measures Criteria](#)
- [Principles for Administrative Simplification](#)

## Clinical Guidelines: ([Aafp.org/patient-care](http://Aafp.org/patient-care))

# NAIIS Session: Data, Data, Data...Improving Data Gathering and Access to Inform Vaccination

Panel Discussion - Challenges and opportunities with implementing the adult immunization quality measures:

1. From your members or your experience, what are the challenges with utilizing these adult QM? (maternal measure and adult composite)
  1. How do you think providers could utilize the QM to help with catch-up vaccination of adults?
  2. What support may be needed to help providers and their organizations be aware of these measures?