

Adult Vaccination: What Works

Name of the Organization:

American Pharmacists Association:

The “Full Package” of Member Support Pays Off

What We Did:

The **American Pharmacists Association** (APhA) has a strong organizational commitment to immunization and is a stellar example of how an organization can mobilize its members to develop better and broader immunization services. Over several years, APhA has made concentrated efforts to improving public health through increasing immunization rates across the life span, particularly with adult patients. Their organizational commitment, in combination with an ambitious array of multiple program efforts, has made a difference. APhA developed an immunization website found at <http://www.pharmacist.com/immunization-center> providing central and timely information for immunizing pharmacists and other stakeholders.

APhA distributes a listserv to more than 60,000 immunizing pharmacists that communicates immunization information tailored to the interests of pharmacists from sources such as the CDC and IAC. The association provides a webinar after each ACIP meeting and has a question-and-answer segment on their website related to ACIP recommendations. Numerous other components of their efforts include student pharmacist programs; state incentive programs; policy work focused on advocating for an expanded immunization roles for pharmacists within the immunization neighborhood; collaboration with agencies and leadership on several workgroups; and certificate training programs. Information alerts go out from APhA with important and timely public health messages for their members, including direct outreach to pharmacists with CDC messages. This year’s letter is found here: <http://www.pharmacist.com/cdc-and-hhs-request-help-pharmacists-promoting-and-providing-vaccinations>.

Outcome or Results We Got:

APhA has contributed to changes seen in the large increase in the number of pharmacists giving vaccines. From the *MMWR* on places of vaccination.

Source: http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6023a3.htm?s_cid=mm6023a3_w

“Although the majority of influenza vaccinations occurred in medical settings, an increasing proportion of influenza vaccinations took place in nonmedical settings. The proportion of adults vaccinated in stores (18.4%) during the 2010--11 season increased in each age group compared with the 1998--99 (5) and 2006--07 influenza seasons (National Immunization Survey [NIS]-Adult, unpublished data, 2011), when 5% and 7% of adults, respectively, were vaccinated in stores. This increase likely resulted partly from changes in state laws allowing pharmacists to administer influenza vaccinations to adults, and subsequently, more pharmacies offering influenza vaccinations. In 1999, only 22 states allowed pharmacists to administer influenza vaccinations to adults. In 2007, the number of states allowing this increased to 46, and in June 2009, all 50 states allowed pharmacists to administer influenza vaccinations (under prescribing protocols or prescription) to adults.”

About Our Organization:

Founded in 1852, **APhA** is the largest association of pharmacists in the United States, with more than 62,000 practicing pharmacists, pharmaceutical scientists, student pharmacists, and pharmacy technicians as members. APhA is the organization whose members are recognized in society as essential in all patient care settings for optimal medication use that improves health, wellness, and quality of life. The American Pharmacists Association empowers its members to improve medication use and advance patient care. APhA will accomplish this by:

- Providing timely and accurate information that is vital to our members.
- Raising societal awareness about the role of pharmacists as essential in patient care for optimal medication use.
- Providing state-of-the art resources to enhance our members’ continuing professional development.
- Educating and influencing legislators, policy makers, regulators, and the public to advance our vision and mission.
- Creating unique opportunities for our members to connect and share with their peers across practice settings.

Our Organization’s Website/Resources/Contact Information:

www.pharmacist.com and <http://www.pharmacist.com/immunization-center>

Contact Information: <https://www.pharmacist.com/contact-us>

