

National Adult Immunization SUMMIT

Adult Vaccination: What Works

Name of the Organization:

- **Washington State Department of Health** Office of Immunization and Child Profile (the department).
- **Immunization Action Coalition of Washington** (IACW).

What We Did:

In 2011, the IACW partnered with the Snohomish Health District (SHD) to create a curriculum and provide a distance learning course for child care providers in Washington State, titled “Immunizations: Protecting Child Care Providers and Children.” The department supported the project, participating in the curriculum review committee.

The course was offered during May 2011 and included how immunizations work, vaccine preventable diseases, vaccine safety, and requirements in the child care setting. Course completion earned participants two free continuing education credits, feedback on their course assignment, and a certificate of completion. The course was offered free of charge and the format allowed participants to choose when to do their course work. They did not have to have access to a computer in order to complete the course.

In 2012, the department partnered with IACW to help increase the number of child care providers who choose to receive the influenza and Tdap vaccines. The funding from the Adult Immunization Prevention and Public Health Fund Grant enabled this course to be offered again, this time adding content on recommendations for adult care providers and outcome measures regarding participants’ intent to be vaccinated. The course was offered for free and in the same format as 2011.

Outcome or Results:

- We had 574 attendees in 2012, over double the number of the 267 participants for the course in 2011.
- The course had a positive impact on intention to vaccinate among course participants. Of the 460 participants that completed evaluations (over 80% response rate), 16.5% said that they planned to receive their flu shot *for the first time* specifically because of what they learned in the course, and 70.4% said that they intended to get a flu shot. 32.6% said that they intended to receive Tdap because of education from the course (51.5% reported having already received it).
- We believe the training is successful because it meets the needs of participants while disseminating evidence-based information about immunizations. The most popular response to an open-ended question about what participants liked best about the training was the information it provided about immunizations and vaccine-preventable diseases, followed by the convenience of doing the course at the learner’s own time and pace and the clear and concise language and format of the course materials.
- 98.0% of respondents said that they would recommend the training to someone else.

About Our Organization:

Washington State Department of Health programs and services help prevent illness and injury, promote healthy places to live and work, provide education to help people make good health decisions, and ensure our state is prepared for public health emergencies.

WithinReach is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to serve as the foremost catalyst for improvements in maternal, child and family health. We work to ensure optimal health for families in Washington by connecting them to the programs, resources, and information they need to build healthy families. The Immunization Action Coalition of Washington, a program of WithinReach, works to improve the health of the community by minimizing the incidence of vaccine preventable diseases through the optimal use of immunizations across the lifespan.

Contact Information:

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