

# What Works

## To Improve Adult Immunization

### What They Did:

Indian Health Service (IHS) is the federal agency charged with providing health care to eligible American Indian/Alaska Native people in the 566 federally-recognized tribes. IHS provides healthcare for approximately 2 million patients each year through its network health care facilities in 35 states. Most IHS-funded facilities are located in rural or isolated areas.

The IHS uses electronic health records (EHRs) and an adult immunization coverage report to support healthcare provider assessment and feed back activities. Currently, vaccination data is collected on approximately 500,000–600,000 patients each quarter.

EHRs generate healthcare provider reminders for all vaccine recommendations for children, adolescents, and adults.

The Adult Immunization Coverage Report (AICR) is generated from EHR data. Vaccine coverage rates are reported for the following vaccines: Td/Tdap received in the last 10 years among people 19 years and older; Tdap ever received among people 19 years and older; HPV 1,2,3 among females 19-26 years and males 19-21 years; herpes zoster among people 60 years and older; and pneumococcal polysaccharide 23-valent among people 65 years and older. The AICR also provides a list of patients who have not yet received a recommended vaccine to support reminder recall efforts.

IHS collects and compiles the adult immunization coverage from each reporting site and distributes a national report for IHS and a regional report for each of the IHS administrative areas on a quarterly basis.

Photos courtesy of the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium and the Indian Health Service

### Results:

The Indian Health Service continues to expand and refine its use of electronic health records and routine adult immunization reporting. The development of the Adult Immunization Coverage Report has been a tool for implementing the Standards for Adult Immunization Practice. IHS uses this coverage report as a way to ensure routine assessment of their patient's vaccination status, and to track and measure progress over time.

Immunization coverage rates for adults seen at IHS-funded facilities continue to increase, and are substantially higher than national adult immunization coverage rates.

Listed below are the immunization coverage rates for IHS patients in 2014.

Tdap, over 19 years	79.8%
Zoster	45.8%
HPV1 for females (19-26 yrs)	58.2%
HPV3 for Females	39.7%
HPV1 for males (19-21 yrs)	45.9%
HPV3 for males	18.7%
PPSV23, ever received in persons 65 and older:	86.3%

### Indian Health Service: Using Electronic Health Records and Routine Reporting to Improve Immunization Rates



For more information:  
<http://www.ihs.gov/>

This "What Works" vignette is one in a series of examples collected by the Provider Workgroup of the National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit. For more information or to nominate an example of "what works" to improve adult immunization, go to <http://www.izsummitpartners.org/>. This vignette does not constitute an endorsement from any of the organizations that participate in the Provider Workgroup or the NAIS.

