

Opinion

This Is the Truth About Vaccines

Deadly diseases that should be seen only in history books are showing up in our emergency rooms.

By Brett P. Giroir, Robert R. Redfield and Jerome M. Adams

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“As public health officials, our role is to advance the health of the American people. This must include championing vaccinations.”



The Burden of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases

Influenza

**9.3 – 49
million
cases**

Pneumococcal
Pneumonia

**1
million
cases**

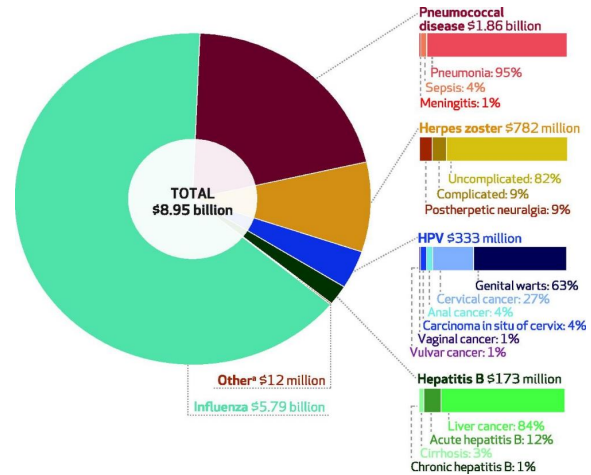
Shingles

**1
million
cases**



The Importance of Adult Vaccination

Approximately
\$9 billion economic burden
 from vaccine-preventable diseases
 related to 10 vaccines for adults
 ages 19 and older



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Source: Ozawa, S., Portnoy, A., Getaneh, H., Clark, S., Knoll, M. D., Bishai, D. M., et al., 2016. Modeling the economic burden of adult vaccine-preventable diseases in the United States. *Health Affairs*, 35(11), 2124-2132.

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The Importance of Adult Vaccination

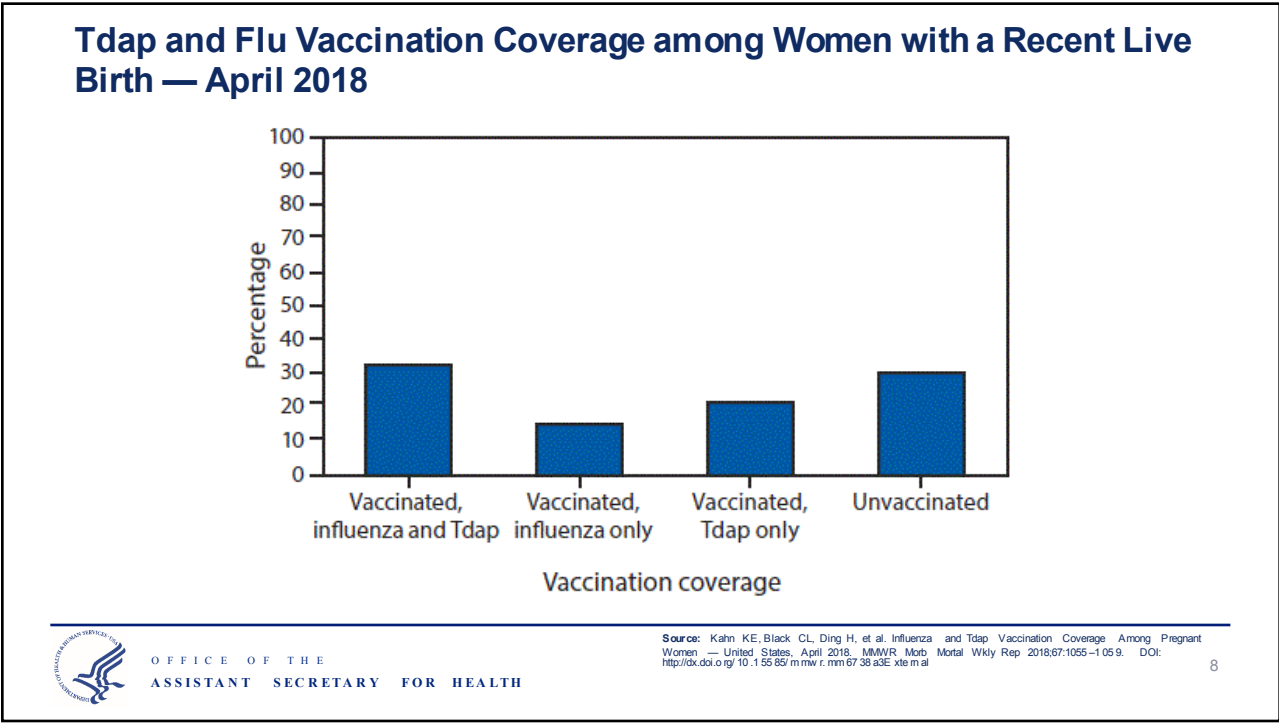
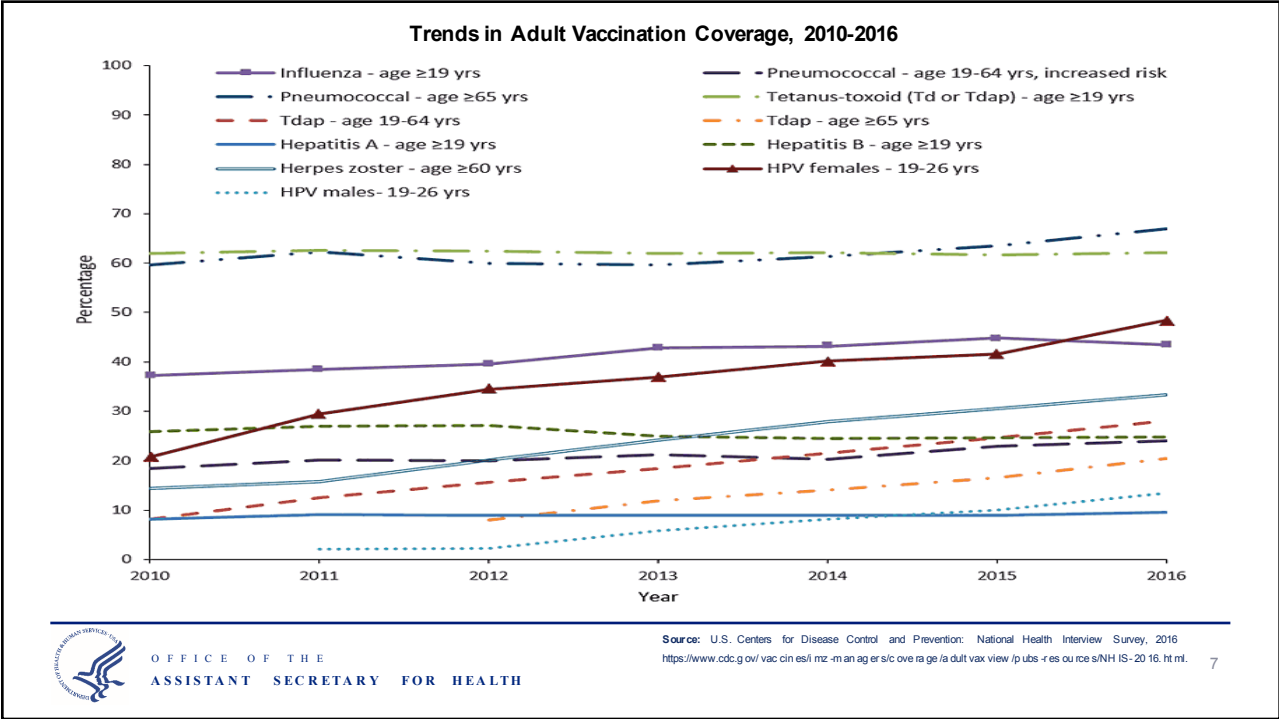
Adults can get vaccinated against 14 serious diseases

- Reduces illness, complications, and deaths from vaccine-preventable diseases (VPDs)
- Lowers health and productivity costs
- Prevents the spread of disease among families and communities



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Disparities Persist in Adult Immunization



Black, Hispanic, and Asian adults had lower vaccination rates than white adults for all recommended vaccines



People without health insurance had vaccination rates that were 2 to 5 times lower than people with health insurance for flu, shingles, HPV, and other diseases



Black and Hispanic health care professionals had lower vaccination rates than white health care professionals for flu, hepatitis B, and Tdap vaccines



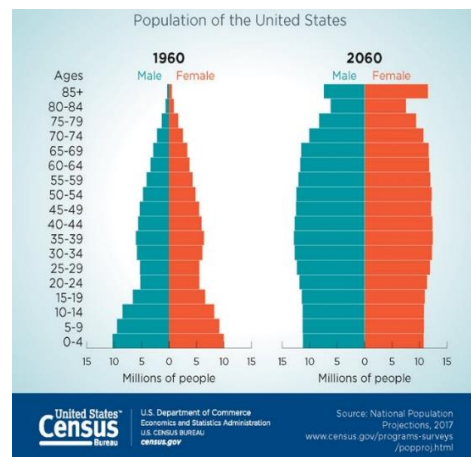
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Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: National Health Interview Survey, 2016

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The Changing U.S. Landscape

- Based on current trends, the U.S. population will become **older, more diverse, and more suburban and urban** over the next 30 years
- To prepare for the future ahead, we need to **identify, prioritize, and implement the most promising, impactful strategies** for improving adult immunization rates and reducing disparities



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Developing the Roadmap for a Healthier Nation



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National Vaccine Plan

- On behalf of the Assistant Secretary for Health, the National Vaccine Program Office (NVPO) coordinates national immunization activities
- NVPO oversees the **National Vaccine Plan (NVP)**—the nation's roadmap for a 21st century vaccine and immunization enterprise—which has five overarching goals:
 - 🧪 **Goal 1:** Develop new and improved vaccines
 - 🛡️ **Goal 2:** Enhance the vaccine safety system
 - 📢 **Goal 3:** Support communications to enhance informed vaccine decision-making
 - 🔒 **Goal 4:** Ensure a stable supply of, access to, and better use of recommended vaccines in the United States
 - 🌐 **Goal 5:** Increase global prevention of death and disease through safe and effective vaccination



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National Adult Immunization Plan

- Recognizing the importance of adult immunization and the lack of sufficient progress in increasing rates, NVPO worked with partners to develop the first ever **National Adult Immunization Plan (NAIP)** in 2016
- The NAIP outlines four goals for advancing U.S. adult immunization efforts:



Goal 1: Strengthen the adult immunization infrastructure



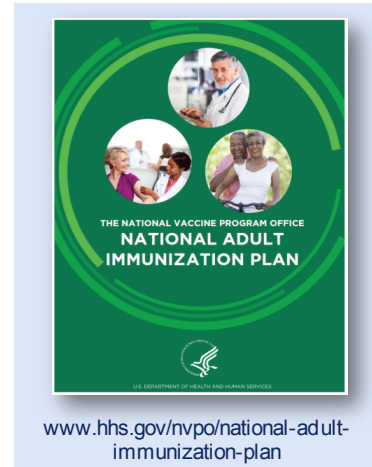
Goal 2: Improve access to adult vaccines



Goal 3: Increase community demand for adult immunizations



Goal 4: Foster innovation in adult vaccine development and vaccination-related technologies



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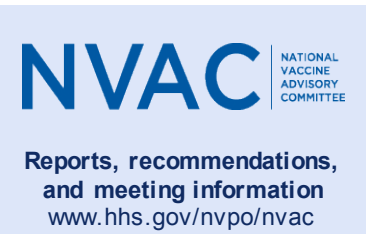
Guiding a New Decade in Immunization Updating Our National Strategy

Update the National Vaccine Plan (NVP) 2020

- **March 2019:** Charged the National Vaccine Advisory Committee (NVAC) with preparing recommendations on updating the NVP by Sept. 2019
 - Review goals and objectives of the National Vaccine Plan and National Adult Immunization Plan (NAIP)
 - Recommend whether the NAIP should remain a separate plan or be integrated into the next NVP
 - Assess appropriateness of NAIP goals and objectives

Developing national recommendations to reduce immunization disparities across the lifespan

- **March 2019:** Charged NVAC with preparing system-wide recommendations for overcoming drivers of immunization disparities and reducing gaps in coverage by Sept. 2020



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Guiding a New Decade in Immunization Advancing Quality Measures

Adult Immunization Status Composite Measure

- Included in Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) 2019 as first-year measures for voluntary health plan reporting
- Received “Conditional Support” for use in Medicare Shared Savings Program, which promotes accountability for services delivered by Accountable Care Organizations

• Prenatal Immunization Status Composite Measures

- Included in Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) 2019 as first-year measures for voluntary health plan reporting



Guiding a New Decade in Immunization Improving Vaccine Financing

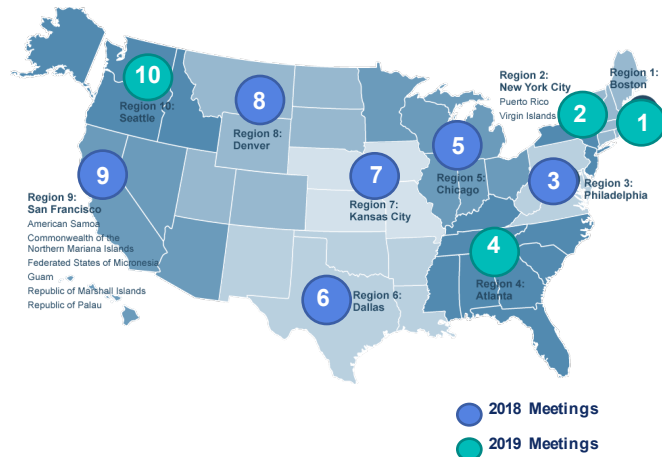
- Exploring policy options for improving vaccine financing under Medicare Part B and Part D
- Collaborating with CMS and external partners to conduct modeling on shingles vaccine

Medicare Coverage for Adult Vaccines	
Medicare Part B	Medicare Part D
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influenza, • Pneumococcal • Hepatitis B (for at-risk individuals) • Vaccines directly related to the treatment of an injury or direct exposure to a disease or condition, such as rabies and tetanus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shingles • MMR • Tdap
\$0 out-of-pocket cost	\$14-102 out-of-pocket cost per vaccine, depending on plan



Guiding A New Decade in Immunization Mobilizing State and Local Action

To implement the NAIP, NVPO and HHS Regional Offices collaborated to **convene adult immunization stakeholders across the 10 HHS regions** to develop regional approaches to adult immunization issues like vaccine access, communication, and financing



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Guiding A New Decade in Immunization Innovating to Increase Community Demand

VACCINES ARE YOUR BEST SHOT
AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH, SHINGLES, & PNEUMOCOCCAL DISEASE.

Watch the series!

healthfinder.gov vaccines.gov
Live well. Learn how.



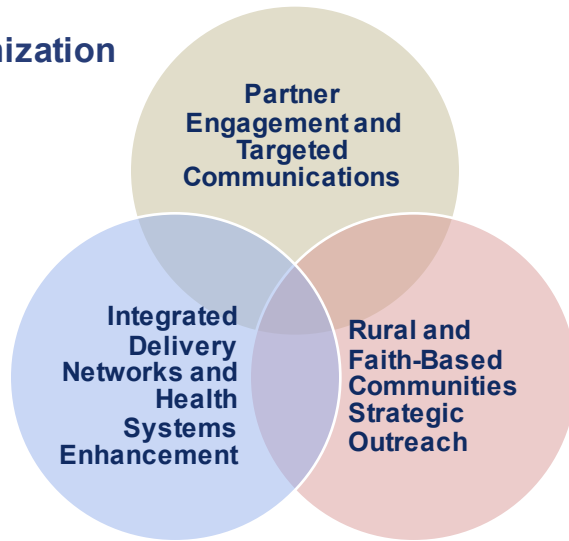
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Guiding A New Decade in Immunization Insights from the HHS HPV Effort

Cross-Cutting Activities

- Create learning collaborative models that permit the sharing of best practices and innovations
- Develop and implement an engagement strategy that reaches all necessary stakeholders and catalyzes private and public collaborations
- Cultivate an understanding of the importance of the HPV vaccine as a cancer prevention in rural communities



Goal: 80% vaccination series completion rates in five years



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Guiding A New Decade in Immunization Insights from the HHS HPV Effort

HPV Catch-up Campaign

- Improving HPV vaccination among young adults ages 18-26
- Targets Mississippi, South Carolina, and Texas

HPV Catch-up on College Campuses

- Stakeholder meeting in Southeastern United States

Vaccine Finder

- **April 2019:** Added ~3,000 Title X clinics offering HPV vaccine to the Vaccine Finder on www.vaccines.gov

HPV Partner Toolkit:

- Graphics, social media posts, and resources at www.vaccines.gov/HPV-Toolkit
- Use the official hashtag: #EndHPVCancers

La vacuna contra el VPH puede prevenir más de **9 de cada 10** casos de cáncer de cuello uterino.

Aprenda más en español vaccines.gov

Together we can
#EndHPVCancers
vaccines.gov

Vaccine Finder vaccines.gov
Adults need protection against vaccine-preventable diseases.
Enter Zip Code GO
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Guiding A New Decade in Immunization The Summit's Role in Advancing Adult Immunization

Advance Quality Measures

- Conduct a comprehensive outreach strategy to health plans and systems to urge inclusion of the adult and prenatal quality measures in their reporting

Reduce Immunization Disparities

- Prioritize immunization disparities in your organization
- Identify and summarize best practices from local and state efforts



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