CONCENTRIC VALUE OF VACCINATION AS WE AGE

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GSA Concentric Value of VACCINATION

Vaccines provide far more than protection against individual disease. As we age, immunization delivers layered benefits that extend from individual health to economic stability and societal wellbeing. Older adults face increased risk from vaccine preventable diseases such as influenza (flu), respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), pneumococcal disease, and shingles. Yet vaccination rates among U.S. adults age 65+ have declined in recent years.

The Concentric Value of Vaccination (CVV) framework, developed by the Gerontological Society of America (GSA), highlights how vaccines deliver intersecting health, economic, and societal benefits across the life course, with an especially important impact for adults age 50 and older.

Why Concentric Value Matters

The value of vaccination extends beyond a single person or disease. The CVV framework helps health professionals, policymakers, and the public understand that vaccines generate overlapping and reinforcing benefits—supporting individual health, population resilience, economic vitality, and societal wellbeing.

Vaccination remains one of the greatest achievements in public health and a cornerstone of healthy aging.

Adapted from *Concentric Value of Vaccination: Intersecting Health, Economic, and Societal Benefits* report
Gerontological Society of America

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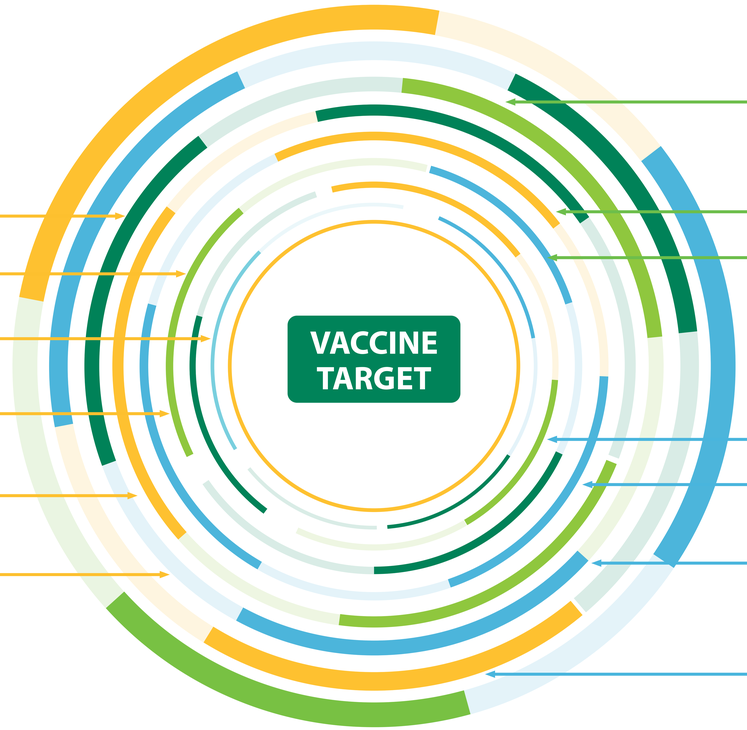
Free vaccine resources in the Gerontology Resource Library
geron.org/vaccines

HEALTH BENEFITS

- Primary prevention of infectious disease
- Increased life expectancy
- Avoidance of long-term complications
- Decreased risk of hospitalization
- Prevention of antimicrobial resistance
- Preservation of functional independence



ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- Health care costs savings for individuals, families, and societies
- Preserve workplace productivity
- Fulfill caregiving responsibilities

SOCIETAL BENEFITS

- Health equity
- Herd immunity and eradication of infectious disease
- Protection of 'vaccinated yet vulnerable' and for those who cannot receive vaccines
- Prevention of antimicrobial resistance

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