

Quality Provider Program: Primary Care Immunizations — Childhood and Flu: Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why does this measure matter?

A: On-time vaccination throughout childhood is essential because it helps provide immunity before children are exposed to potentially life-threatening diseases. Influenza is a leading cause of vaccine-preventable death in U.S. children, accounting for 616 deaths from 2016 to 2020.*

Q: What is Select Health doing to help?

A: Select Health Quality Provider Program provides an up-to-date registry of Select Health patients included in this measure with their compliance status. Filter patient lists to identify patients who will need to be immunized soon.

Q: What are best practices for this measure?

A: Best practices include:

- Using the Select Health Quality Provider Program gaps report or clinic electronic medical record gaps to identify patients who need immunizations
- Ensuring strong provider recommendation with emphasis on the benefit of vaccines during office visits by:
 - Asking open-ended questions when encountering hesitancy such as, “What concerns do you have?,” to promote better dialogue between patient/parent and provider
 - Coordinating vaccine timing with well-child visits, where appropriate
 - Making the next dose follow-up appointment prior to parents leaving the office
 - Offering walk-in appointments for vaccinations
 - Educating parent(s) if vaccine refusal occurs, stressing the associated risk, and continuing the conversation at the next most-appropriate time.

• Enhancing practice workflow by:

- Educating all staff (from front desk to providers) to consistently encourage vaccination and appropriate timing requirements
 - Providing standing orders for immunization, and creating provider prompts in electronic health records for when immunizations are due
 - Implementing a reminder system to inform patients about upcoming recommended immunizations as well as encouraging those who are overdue for immunizations to return to the office
- Monitoring progress toward your goals, adjusting the process when needed by:
- Establishing a baseline immunization rate and setting an ambitious goal
 - Discussing how your process is working during staff meetings
 - Making process adjustments as needed to ensure success

Reference:

* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *FluView Interactive: Influenza-associated Pediatric Mortality*. cdc.gov. Available at: <https://gis.cdc.gov/grasp/fluview/pepfludeath.html>. Accessed December 28, 2022.

Resources:

American Academy of Pediatrics. *Why Immunize Your Child*. AAP.org. March 29, 2022. Available at: <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/immunizations/Pages/Why-Immunize-Your-Child.aspx>. Accessed December 28, 2022.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *If You Choose Not to Vaccinate Your Child, Understand the Risks and Responsibilities*. CDC.gov. Last reviewed March 2012. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/patient-ed/conversations/downloads/not-vacc-risks-color-office.pdf>. Accessed December 28, 2022.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Vaccines for Your Children*. cdc.gov. Last Reviewed March 18, 2019. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/by-age/index.html>. Accessed December 28, 2022.

Immunization Action Coalition. *Suggestions to Improve Your Immunization Services*. May 2017. Available at: <https://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2045.pdf>. Accessed December 28, 2022.



Questions about the Quality Provider Program?
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