

Improvement of Vaccination Rates in Adult Patients at High Risk for Pneumococcal Disease: A Focus on Reasons for Decline of Vaccination

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- 1,541-bed tertiary care, academic medical center
 - Member of Yale-New Haven Health System
 - Bridgeport Hospital
 - Greenwich Hospital
 - New England Medical Group
- Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) pneumococcal immunization measure, IMM-1
- Vaccination process is a multidisciplinary effort

Study Rationale

- 40% refusal rate of pneumococcal vaccination at Yale-New Haven Hospital
- Lack of studies that identify reasons for patient refusal
- Lack of validated interventions to improve vaccination rates



Results

- Main reasons for patient refusal to pneumococcal vaccine:
 - Overwhelmed by their health condition
 - Feel healthy otherwise
 - Patients concerned that vaccine will worsen their condition
- Implemented a robust nursing, provider and pharmacist education program
- ✧ Vaccination decline rates were decreased from 40% to 16.2%!

Impact on Community

- Electronic health record (Epic) was enhanced to meet the needs of YNHHS and these improvements were made available to other hospitals using the Epic platform
- Continuing education was provided to all nurses, pharmacists and providers working in Yale-New Haven Health System
- Continuing education was provided to pharmacists in Connecticut via a state pharmacy society annual meeting