

Accept the challenge, get vaccinated!

Increasing pneumococcal and influenza vaccine coverage among the adult population in Puerto Rico

Key objectives:

- Assess and strengthen Pneumococcal and Influenza standing order system in order to improve vaccination coverage
- Develop capacity among health care providers and non-physician clinicians to modify health behaviors and increase education
- Provide vaccinations in healthcare settings to increase access
- Develop a culturally appropriate adult vaccination campaign to increase education and outreach



Main achievements: Hospitals Standing Orders

- Survey hospitals with the collaboration of Puerto Rico Department of Health, Puerto Rico Hospitals Association and the Puerto Rico Epidemiologist Association
- Main findings:
 - 85% of participating hospitals have a Pneumococcal and Influenza vaccination protocol
 - 43% of those for older adults 65+
 - 86% for employees.
 - A total of 87% of participating hospitals offer vaccination directly (at least to employees) and 13% refer to other settings for this service.
 - Only 15% reported to count written standing orders.







Possible barriers to implementing Standing Orders:

- Not required by Joint Commission, nor Medicare
- No Medicare reimbursement due to per diem of hospital care
- Other priorities

Main achievements:

Develop capacity among HCP

- Provided quality educational conference and materials to physicians, nurses and other healthcare providers
 - IMCO
 - Immunization Update Summits
- Provided interactive quality educational conference to several professional groups.
 - · Puerto Rico Epidemiologists Association,
 - Volunteers from SHIP (State Health Insurance Program, Office of the Advocate for Seniors)
 - Faculty and Students from
 - UCC (Central Caribbean University)
 - Pharmacy Assistant Students at Ponce Paramedical College
 - Pharmacist Students at UPR
- Participated on professional meetings through educational table and educational materials dissemination:
 - Academy of Family Physicians 2014, 2015 & 2016 Convention
 - ProGyn Sunshine Seminar 2014 & 2016
 - Pharmacists College 2014 & 2016 Convention

Estimate reach: 5,465 professionals





Main achievements: Adult vaccination campaign

 Vaccination promotional efforts to educate and mobilize elders to get vaccinate

- Press releases
- Press conferences
- Media tour
- Radio spots
- Video clips
- Editorials
- Printed materials (posters, flyers, etc.)
- Community outreach
- Estimated reach 70,000 persons



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