

Will Influenza be Back? Strategies for Avoiding the “Twindemic”

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Disclosures

- I have no conflicts of interest.
- I do NOT intend to discuss an unapproved or investigative use of a commercial product/device in my presentation

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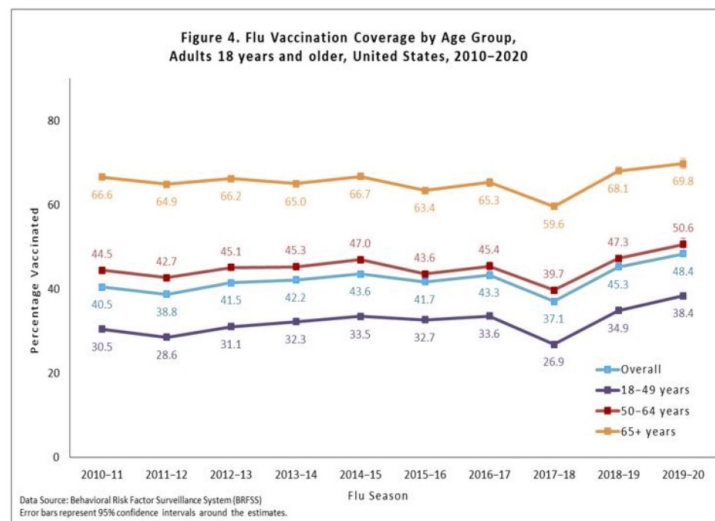
- The opinions expressed in this presentation are solely those of the presenter and do not necessarily represent the official positions of the Immunization Action Coalition, or the National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit

Influenza Vaccination Coverage Rates

Flu Vaccination coverage has traditionally been low

2019-2020 Adult Influenza Vaccination Coverage*

- 48.4% of all adults over 18 years of age vaccinated
- Only 69.8% of those over 65 years of age vaccinated
- Only 50.6% of adults between 50 -64 years of age vaccinated
- Only 42.3% of adults 18-64 years of age vaccinated
 - Only 51.4% of adults 18-64 years of age with at least one high-risk medical condition vaccinated



*<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluvoxvie/w/coverage-1920estimates.htm>

Impact of Employer Policy on Healthcare

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Influenza Vaccination Honor Roll

Long-Term Care / Assisted Living Honorees

AL	AK	AR	AZ	CA	CO	CT	DC	DE	FL	GA	HI
ID	IL	IN	IA	KS	KY	LA	ME	MD	MA	MI	MN
MS	MO	MT	NE	NV	NH	NJ	NM	NY	NC	ND	OH
OK	OR	PA	RI	SC	SD	TN	TX	UT	VT	VA	WA
WV	WI	WY	U.S. Territories								

There are currently 291 Long-Term Care / Assisted Living organizations on the Influenza Vaccination Mandates Honor Roll.

[Click here to view the entire Honor Roll.](#)

IAC recognizes stellar examples of facilities and organizations that have influenza vaccination mandates for their healthcare personnel (HCP), including those working in long-term care facilities (LTCFs). The best way to prevent transmission of influenza to patients and residents is to mandate vaccination of healthcare personnel. The Influenza Vaccination Honor Roll represents the champions who have taken the lead in mandating influenza vaccination within their facilities.

To be included in this honor roll, your facility's mandate must require influenza vaccination for employees and must include serious measures to prevent transmission of influenza from unvaccinated workers to patients/residents. Such measures might include a mask requirement or reassignment to non-patient-care duties.

Who's on the Honor Roll?



View the entire honor roll — approximately 1000 organizations are now enrolled.

➔ Position Statements
Policies from leading health organizations on mandatory influenza vaccination



Apply for the Influenza Vaccination Honor Roll

Fill out this online form to tell IAC about influenza vaccination mandates in your healthcare setting

✧ [Apply Now](#) ✧

age Rate

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Talking about Vaccines

Honor Roll?
the entire honor roll —
than 1,150 healthcare
gs are now enrolled.

the Influenza
on Honor Roll
m to tell IAC about influenza
s in your healthcare setting

[Apply Now](#) ✧

*
https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluview/hcp-coverage_1920estimates.htm

...policies to adjust practice activities during flu season are appropriate (e.g., wear masks, refrain from direct patient care).
Released: June 2011

.....
American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Policy Statement: Influenza Immunization for All Health Care Personnel: Keep It Mandatory
The purpose of this statement is to reaffirm the American Academy of Pediatrics'™ support for a mandatory influenza immunization policy for all health care personnel. With an increasing number of organizations requiring influenza vaccination, coverage among health care personnel has risen to 75% in the 2013 to 2014 influenza season but still remains below the Healthy People 2020 objective of 90%. Mandatory influenza immunization for all health care personnel is ethical, just, and necessary to improve patient safety. It is a crucial step in efforts to reduce health care associated influenza infections.

Websites

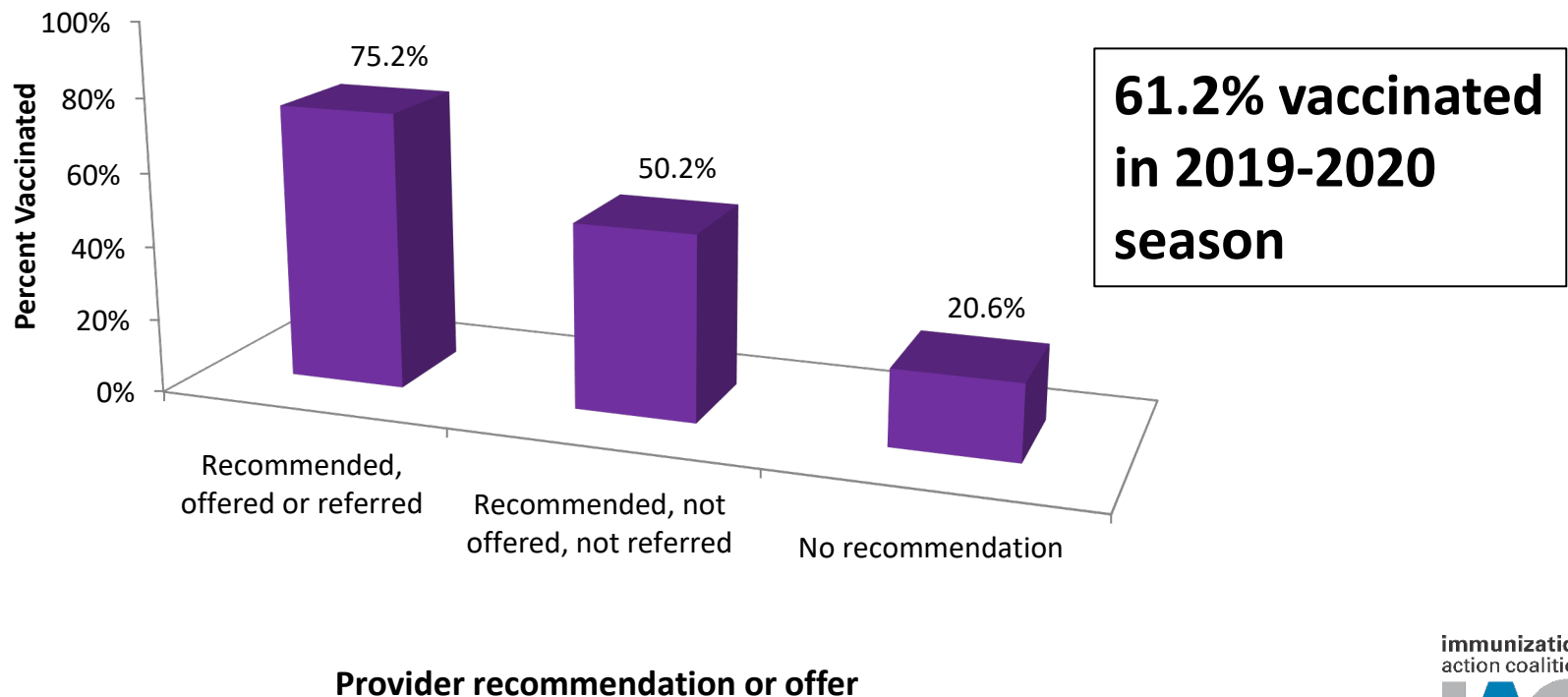
Vaccinating Healthcare Personnel
National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit

Toolkits

A Toolkit for Long-Term Care

Influenza Vaccination Among Pregnant Women by Provider Recommendation or Offer of Vaccination, 2019-20 Season*

Influenza vaccination coverage before and during pregnancy among women pregnant any time after August 1, 2019, by provider recommendation or offer



* Internet Panel Survey, United States, April 2–April 14, 2020, among women aged 18–49 years who reported being pregnant anytime since August 1, 2019, through the date of the survey

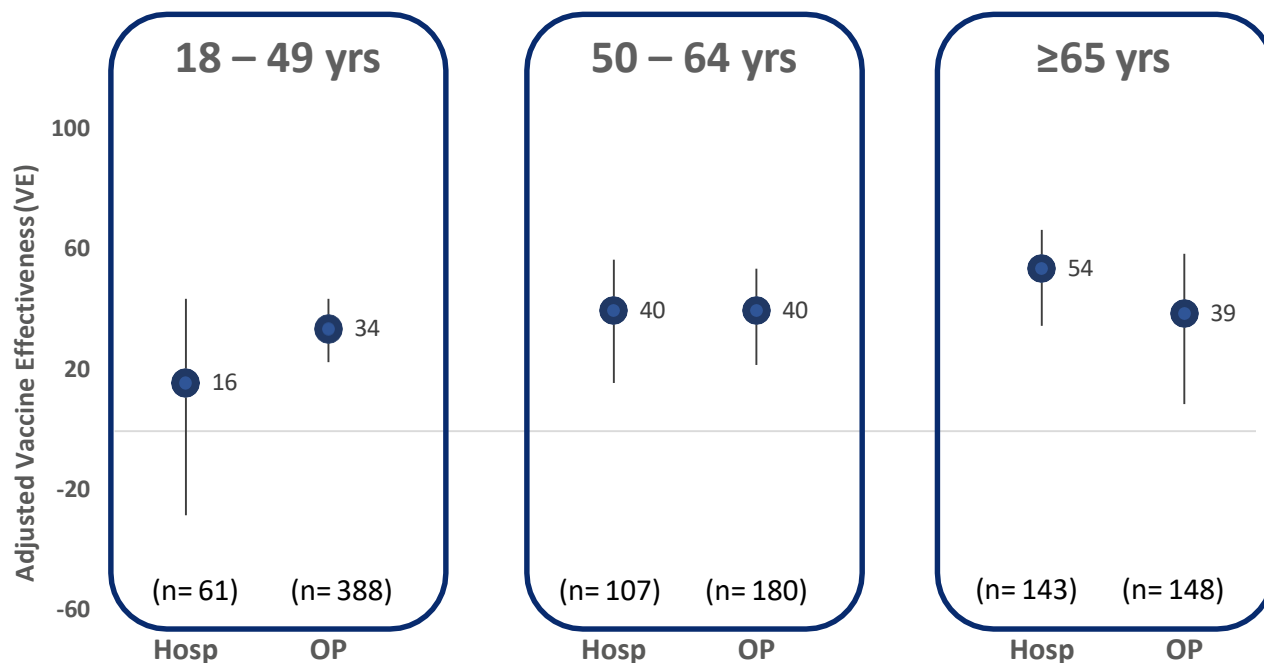
Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness

Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness continues to be the tricky messaging point to improve coverage rates

Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness (2019 – 2020 season)

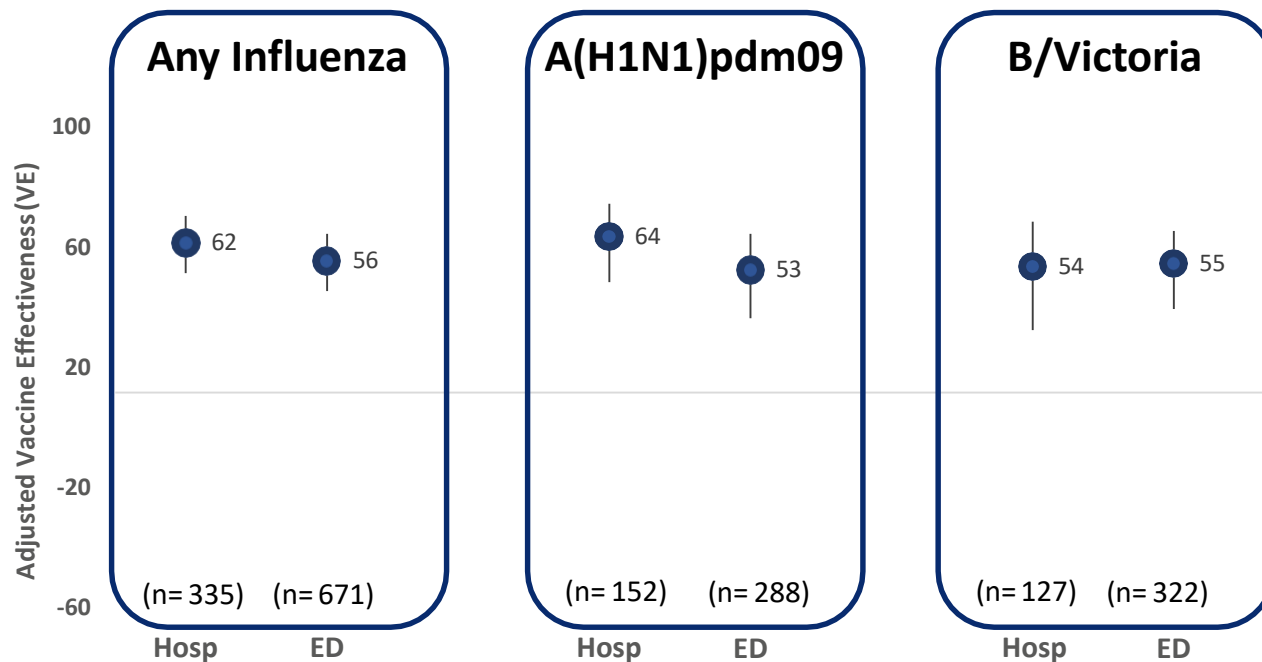
Age group (years)	Influenza positive Total	Vaccinated influenza positive (% vaccinated)	Influenza negative Total	Vaccinated influenza negative (% vaccinated)	Adjusted VE %	Adjusted 95% CI
All ages	2722	1140 (42)	6123	3388 (55)	39	(32, 44)
6 mos–8	646	269 (42)	1365	759 (56)	34	(19, 46)
9–17	471	155 (33)	722	324 (45)	40	(22, 53)
18–49	1056	388 (37)	2202	991 (45)	34	(23, 44)
50–64	350	180 (51)	998	619 (62)	40	(22, 54)
≥65	199	148 (74)	836	695 (83)	39	(9, 59)

Preliminary VE against influenza hospitalizations and outpatient visits among adults, by age group, HAIVEN/Flu VE Network – 2019-20



* Final models adjusted for study site, age, sex, race/ethnicity, days from illness onset to specimen collection, timing of illness onset, ≥1 hospitalizations (versus none) in prior year (HAIVEN)

Preliminary VE against pediatric influenza hospitalizations, ED visits - NVSN, 2019-20



- Final models adjusted for study site, age as a continuous variable and calendar time (monthly intervals)
- n values show the total number of influenza positive subjects in each group

Another way to look at influenza vaccine effectiveness – negative outcomes averted

the benefits of flu vaccination **2019-2020**



www.cdc.gov/flu

Flu vaccination in the U.S. during the 2019-2020 season prevented an estimated:

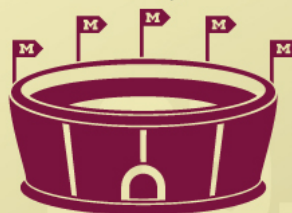
7.5
million
flu illnesses

More than the combined population of Kentucky and Kansas



105,000
flu hospitalizations

Enough people to fill Michigan Stadium at the University of Michigan

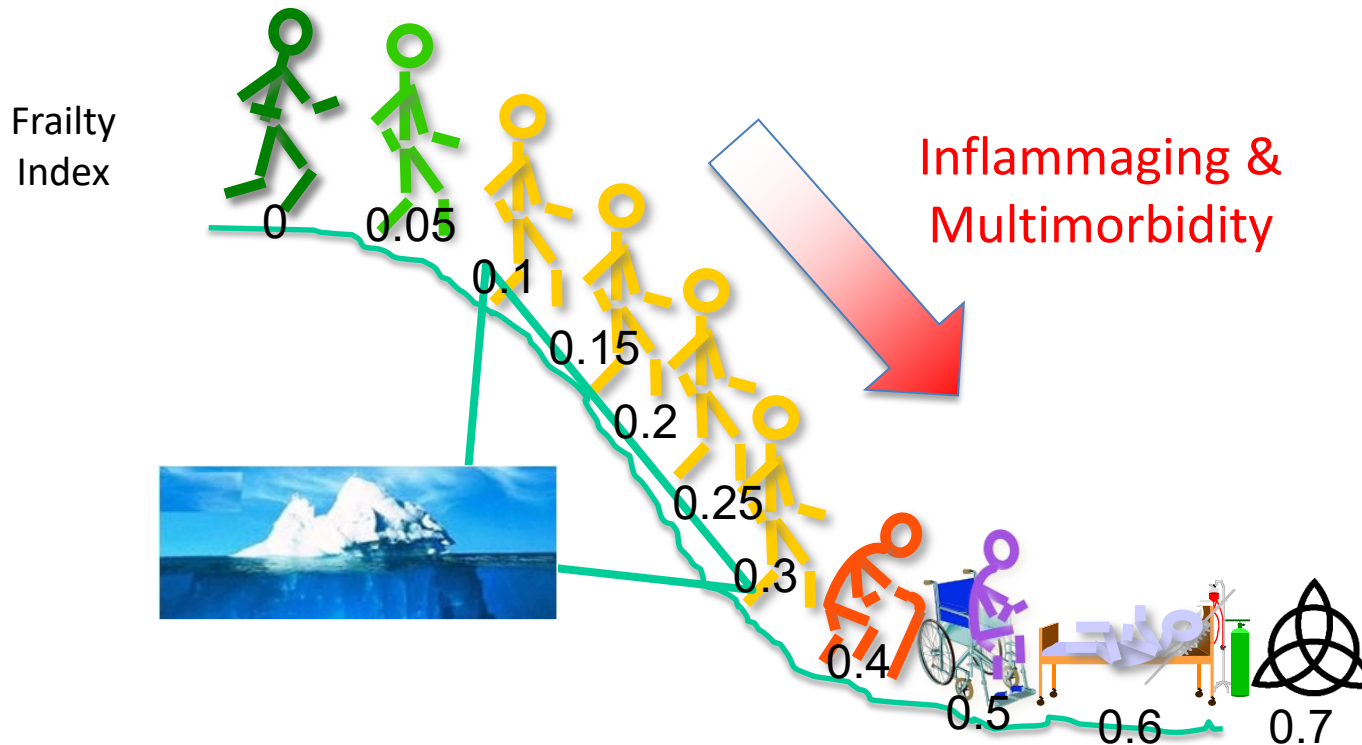


6,300
flu deaths

Equivalent to saving about 17 lives per day over the course of a year



Resilience to Influenza with Aging



Graphic courtesy of Janet McIlhaney, MD

Resilience to Influenza with Aging



Leverage flu vaccination to offer COVID-19
vaccination...AND vice versa...

Co-administration of Influenza Vaccines with COVID-19 Vaccines

- Current CDC guidance indicates that COVID-19 vaccines and other vaccines, including influenza, **may be co-administered without regard to timing.**
- Providers should check current CDC COVID-19 vaccination guidance for updated information concerning co-administration.

National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit (NAIIS) Call to Action*

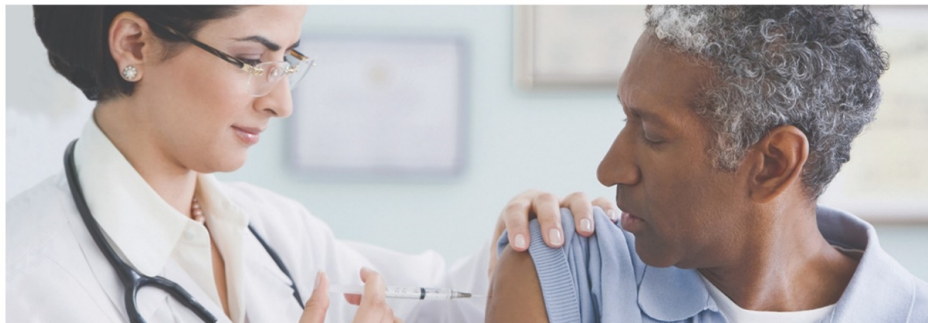


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A Call to Action to Protect All Adults from Vaccine-Preventable Disease and Disability



Majority of U.S. Adults Are Missing Routine Vaccinations

Call to Action to Protect All Adults from Vaccine-Preventable Disease and Disability

Click below to add your organization's support of the Call to Action

Support the Call to Action

Organizations Supporting Call to Action

- ✦ American Academy of PAs (AAPA)
- ✦ American College of Physicians (ACP)
- ✦ American Immunization Registry Association (AIRA)
- ✦ American Medical Association (AMA)
- ✦ American Medical Group Association

[*https://www.izsummitpartners.org/call-to-action-adult-immunizations/](https://www.izsummitpartners.org/call-to-action-adult-immunizations/)

National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit (NAIIS) Call to Action*



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta GA 30329-4027

August 23, 2021

Majority of U.S. Adults Are Missing Routine Vaccinations

A Call to Action to Protect All Adults from Vaccine-Preventable Disease and Disability

Dear Colleague,

Vaccinations are critical components of routine healthcare for adults. They provide protection against severe illness, disability, and death from 15 different infectious diseases such as influenza, pneumococcal disease, herpes zoster (shingles), hepatitis A, hepatitis B, HPV-related cancers, tetanus, and pertussis (whooping cough). The enormous impact of COVID-19 vaccines on reducing illnesses, hospitalizations, and deaths further demonstrates the immense value of vaccines.

Despite the tremendous benefit of vaccines, at least 3 out of every 4 adults are missing one or more routinely recommended vaccines. Given the recognized health benefits of adult vaccinations and low rates of adult vaccination, made worse by the COVID-19 pandemic, the National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit (NAIIS) members call on providers across the healthcare spectrum to take actions to improve vaccination of adults.

Specifically, NAIIS calls on all clinicians and other healthcare providers, such as pharmacists, occupational health, and clinical subspecialists, to follow the National Vaccine Advisory Committee's (NVAC) Standards for Adult Immunization Practice including:

- Assess the vaccination status of patients at all clinical encounters, even among clinicians and other providers who do not stock vaccines.
 - Utilize a jurisdiction's immunization information system (IIS) to view patients' prior vaccinations to support vaccine needs assessment.
- Identify vaccines patients need, then clearly recommend needed vaccines.
- Offer needed vaccines or refer patients to another provider for vaccination.
- Document vaccinations given, including in the jurisdiction's IIS.
 - Many electronic health record (EHR) systems already link to jurisdictions' IISs – providers should check with their EHR administrators.
 - Providers not already utilizing an IIS should contact their local or state immunization program to inquire about enrolling in their jurisdiction's IIS.
- Measure vaccination rates of providers' patient panels; making changes to clinic patient flow and taking other steps to address barriers to patient vaccination.

Taking these actions will help protect adults across the U.S. against preventable illness, disability, and death.

Resources for implementation of the Standards for Adult Immunization Practices can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/adults/for-practice/standards/index.html>.

For a list of NAIIS members supporting the Standards, visit <https://www.izsummitpartners.org/adult-immunization-standards/>.

Standards for Adult Immunization Practice

- **Assess** the vaccination status of patients at all clinical encounters
- **Identify** vaccines patients need, then clearly **recommend** needed vaccines.
- **Offer** needed vaccines or refer patients to another provider for vaccination.
- **Document** vaccinations given.
- **Measure** vaccination rates of providers' patient panels.

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/adults/for-practice/increasing-vacc-rates.html>

*<https://www.izsummitpartners.org/call-to-action-adult-immunizations/>.

Effective Strategies to Increase Influenza (and adult!) Vaccination Coverage

Intervention	Population
Reducing client out-of-pocket costs for vaccinations	Adults
Client reminder/recall systems	Adults
Community-based interventions when implemented in combination	Adults
Provider reminder systems when used alone	Adults
Provider assessment and feedback	Adults
Standing orders	Adults
Health care-based interventions when implemented in combination	Adults
Worksite interventions with on-site, reduced-cost, actively promoted influenza vaccinations	Adults, healthcare personnel

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 - <http://www.immunize.org/publications/>
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**Thank You
for your
attention!**

