



CYPRUS INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH



IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE
HARVARD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Recommendations on improving Vaccination of Health Care Personnel

***Education (i.e. influenza vaccination, non-vaccine control measures) to overcome barriers/ Comprehensive information and education program**

-Educate HCP regarding the benefits of influenza vaccination and the potential health consequences of influenza illness for themselves and their patients, the epidemiology and modes of transmission, diagnosis, treatment, and non-vaccine infection control strategies, in accordance with their level of responsibility in preventing health-care--associated influenza.

-Educate health workers that influenza virus is easily transmitted and they are putting patients, themselves, their families and others at risk.

-Remind health care workers that CDC recommends influenza vaccination annually.

***Program evaluation and Monitoring**

-Health care administration should include influenza vaccination coverage among HCP as a measure of quality of care.

-Influenza vaccination rates among HCP within facilities should be regularly measured and reported, and ward-, unit-, and specialty-specific coverage rates should be provided to staff and administration. Such information might be useful to promote compliance with vaccination policies.

-Monitor HCP influenza vaccination coverage and declination at regular intervals during influenza season and provide feedback of ward-, unit-, and specialty-specific rates to staff and administration.

-The hospital evaluates reasons given by staff and independent practitioners for declining the vaccination.

-Annually monitor vaccination rates and reasons for non-participation in the organizations program.



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***Signed declination policies**

-Obtain a signed declination from HCP who decline influenza vaccination for reasons other than medical contraindications.

***Top management/administration need to become strong advocates to ensure health care workers/employees become vaccinated to accomplish:**

-Better infection control

-Reduced absenteeism

-Cost savings/effectiveness

***Access to vaccinations on site/conveniently available vaccines/easy access to vaccines**

- Make influenza vaccination convenient

-Provide influenza vaccination to HCP at the work site and at no cost as one component of employee health programs. Use strategies that have been demonstrated to increase influenza vaccine acceptance, including vaccination clinics, mobile carts, vaccination access during all work shifts, and modeling and support by institutional leaders.

-Offer vaccine clinics at various times

-Take the vaccine to health care workers

-Reduce or remove cost barriers by providing vaccine

***Mandatory (multifaceted mandatory vaccination programs) vs Voluntary Immunization**

***Use the level of HCP influenza vaccination coverage as one measure of a patient safety quality program**

***Implement enhancements to the program to increase participation/Incentives to encourage immunization**

***The hospital establishes an annual vaccination program for practitioners and staff**

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-Offer influenza vaccine annually to all eligible HCP to protect staff, patients, and family members and to decrease HCP absenteeism.

-Require annual influenza immunization

***The hospital includes in its infection control plan the goal of improving vaccination rates**

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