Successful Immunization Program For Health Care Workers and Residents in Long Term Care

By
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OBJECTIVES
1. Learn Strategies to increase Health Care Workers Influenza vaccination rates
2 Improve communication with staff regarding immunizations
3 Learn to set up an effective Resident and Health Care worker immunization program
4 Learn the barriers to a successful immunization program in LTC
STRATEGIES For Immunization Program
1. Select a leader to administer the influenza Immunization Program

Chair Person responsible for planning and implementing the influenza vaccination program
Get a Commitment From Top Management

Leadership must demonstrate a belief in the effectiveness and necessity of vaccination.

It can be beneficial to have the leadership staff get the First Flu shot. It sets a highly visible example.
Create a policy statement affirming your facilities commitment increasing Health Care workers Influenza vaccination rates. Policies and protocols in place. Staff awareness of policies and...
Use Every Possible Means To Deliver Messages

Education Information

Benefits from receiving flu vaccine
Expelling the myths
Handouts on the reasons should get vaccine
Logistical Information

About where and when to get vaccination
Use Memos
use handouts
Mail with paycheck
Announce it
Place on the computer
Text Messages
Place on screen TV information
Emails
LORETTO FLU CLINIC

FREE FOR
EMPLOYEES/VOLUNTEERS/
CONTRACT EMPLOYEES

WHEN: OCTOBER 1ST (MONDAY)
WHERE: CUNNINGHAM AUD 2\textsuperscript{nd} FLOOR
TIME: 6 AM until 6 PM
FROM: Vicky Lyman, Infection Preventionist

Everyone that receives their FREE flu shot, will get a candy bar along with a green sticker.

This green sticker must be worn on your Name Badge

SEE YOU AT THE CLINIC!!!!!!
Make Influenza Vaccine Easily Accessible

Rolling Cart
Vaccination Clinics various times, locations
Turkey give away
Department meetings
Give them places times dates(employee health, Infection Control Office)
Remove Cost Barriers to Immunization

Make sure all staff know that it is FREE!
Examples of Incentives to Encourage Health Care Workers to Accept Influenza Vaccination

1. Contests Between Units
2. Free Lunches
3. Gift Certificates
4. Parties
5. Raffles
6. Recognition Programs
7. Candy Bars
Possible Reasons For Low Rates

1. Fear of Injections
2. Fear of vaccine induced illness
3. A perception that the vaccine is ineffective
4. In convenience
5. Employers failure to cover the cost of vaccine
6. Facility’s failure to make HCW Immunization a priority
Understanding Translates into Acceptance

1. It is important for staff to realize that they will benefit directly from receiving the vaccine

2. Staff need to be aware when vaccinated against the Flu they will be protecting their children and other family members from illness
Myths and Misconceptions

The Flu vaccine causes the Flu
I got the vaccine and it made me sick
I’ll just stay home if I get the flu
If you vaccinate the residents, that is enough
The preservative in the flu shot is dangerous
The Flu Shot isn’t effective anyway
Staff That Decline the vaccination

1. Have to watch video before can sign off on declination. Take a quiz
2. Reminded about wearing surgical mask when Commissioner of Health declares Flu season
3. Wears Red Dot on name tag with decline on it
4. Policy to protect staff/resident if you get a flu outbreak
Improving Immunization Rates of Residents in Long Term Care

INFLUENZA PROGRAM

PNEUMOVAX PROGRAM
INFLUENZA PROGRAM For RESIDENTS
Appoint a person to oversee the Residents Vaccination Program
1. Coordinate the program to be sure Residents received the flu vaccine per DOH regulations and recommendations
2. Be passionate about the process not just another job
Ordering The Vaccine
The influenza vaccine usually needs to be ordered early (like in April)
Figure out the amount you will need to go through the entire season by looking at past years
know your admission and turn over rates
In Mid August we send out a letter to The Health Care Proxy
Included is the VIS Sheet
‘The permission sheet for HCP to sign and return if their Family member is unable to understand to sign
August 2018
Dear Family and Friends:

    The Flu season will soon be here. We are enclosing the consent form for the flu vaccine. Please check the yes or no box to give the flu vaccine or to refuse the flu vaccine. Once completed please return this form by mail attention to the unit that your loved one resides on or you bring it in and give it the Nurse Manager/ Unit Secretary on the unit.
Also attached is an influenza (inactivated) Vaccine Information Sheet for your review. Please be advised that we cannot give your family member/friend the flu vaccine without your signed permission so please make sure to return the form. If your family member/friend is capable of making this decision, we will have them sign the form. Please indicate this is OK on the form and send it back.
The seasonal flu shot is scheduled to be given to the Loretto residents within the next few weeks. If you have any questions, please call the unit your family member resides on or you may also call Vicky Lyman, Infection Preventionist at 315-413-3670.
If Resident can sign, be sure given a copy of the VIS sheet and go over that with them and have the resident sign the permission for the influenza vaccine. If it is a Long Term Care floor have the permissions for the flu vaccine all done before you start to give the vaccine. That way you can try to give them all the same day.
Try to have someone in charge of ordering the vaccine and distributing the vaccine to the units when it arrives. Make sure it is refrigerated.
Keep rechecking on the units to be sure they are giving the vaccine. If Residents or families refuse get a list of their names from each unit. Follow through to make sure the resident or family fully understands the importance of receiving the flu vaccine when living in a long term care facility. Let them know you have alternative (flubloc)
Flu Vaccine Orders

Try to make it as easy as you can for the staff administering the vaccine.

Have your pharmacy preprint orders for the Doctors to sign.
Have preprinted on the medication administration Record.
Completion of the Flu Vaccine

Give them a time frame to complete the vaccine. We do ours from October 1st to October 31st. Have a contest to what unit finishes first, second, third and give prizes. A pizza party for the staff and residents on the unit. An ice cream social for staff and residents.
Remind and Recheck to be sure that new admissions are offered and get their flu vaccine Through May.
Loretto Health and Rehab Center DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FLU Vaccine Employees Rates</th>
<th>Residents Flu Vaccine Rates</th>
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<tr>
<td>84.5%</td>
<td>87.4%</td>
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To ensure that all of their citizens are protected against the flu, officials in Syracuse released 100,000 flu-inoculating bees.
Pneumococcal vaccination for the Residents in Nursing Homes

Important to improve the rates for both the PPSV23 and PCV13
The Pneumococcal Program must be set up concise

Policy and Procedures need to be written and in place that is easy for staff to follow
In Our admission Packet we place the pneumococcal vaccination VIS sheet and the consent form for the pneumococcal vaccines
When a resident is admitted, check for their immunization record and check to see what vaccines have been given.

If there is no record of vaccines:
Check with resident
Check with previous attending Physician
Check with Family
Every Adult age 65 years and older should receive both PCV13 and PPSV23

If they are 19 to 64, there is criteria to follow to indicate they are in a risk group to receive the vaccines.

It is very important that the staff follow this criteria to be sure we capture every resident that is eligible.
Age 65 Years or Older

- If PCV13 was given before age 65 years, no additional PCV13 is needed.

1. **No history of pneumococcal vaccine**
   - **PCV 13** (Prevnar 13®)
   - 6-12 month interval
   - **PPSV 23** (Pneumovax® 23)

2. **Received PPSV23 before age 65**
   - 1 year interval
   - **PCV 13** (Prevnar 13®)
   - 6–12 month interval (and at least 5 years after prior dose of PPSV23)
   - **PPSV 23** (Pneumovax® 23)

3. **Received PPSV23 at age 65 or older**
   - 1 year interval
   - **PCV 13** (Prevnar 13®)
   - **PPSV 23** (Pneumovax® 23)
AGE 19 to 64

**Smoker, Long-term facility resident, or Chronic conditions:**
- heart disease (excluding hypertension)
- lung disease (including asthma)
- liver disease (including cirrhosis)
- diabetes
- alcoholism

**Immunocompromised**
(including HIV infection),
**Chronic renal failure, Nephrotic syndrome, or Asplenia**

**CSF leaks or Cochlear implants**

**DO NOT administer PCV13 and PPSV23 at the same visit.**

California Department of Public Health, Immunization Branch [www.EZIZ.org](http://www.EZIZ.org)

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Tracking Log

Use a tracking log. To track the pneumococcal vaccines so you are following the recommendations set up by CMS, CDC. There are examples on the CDC websites but the next slide shows one I made for the units to use.
Audit to be sure there is compliance

Pneumococcal vaccine program can easily fall apart if not constant monitoring to be sure your units are following the procedure. There is a change over in staff often. Designate whose responsible for this program. We have our MDS nurse report to me and the nurse manager if the Pneumococcal vaccine is not complete.
Weekly Audits are done and this information is reported at our Quality Assurance committee meeting monthly.

Again do not forget your billing department this can be billed as along as 11 months apart.
In Conclusion

Influenza and pneumococcal disease are major preventable causes of morbidity and mortality among residents of LTC facilities.

Federal regulations require nursing homes to offer influenza vaccination to all residents for whom vaccination is not medically contraindicated and encourage increasing immunization rates among LTC facility staff.
BIG Problem

Widespread illness resulting from low vaccination rates among employees may also result in staffing problems at long term care facilities, including increased workplace absenteeism, increased work hours for remaining workers, and significant measurable costs for employers.
In Conclusion

For a successful immunization program
1. be passionate about immunizations
2. Believe in vaccines
3. Try to increase your numbers each year compete with yourself
4. Plan Organize and then implement that plan
5. Have the right person in your organization leading the program
LET'S ALL work to keep our residents, coworkers, and Families Healthy and HAPPY
Thank You

My email address is vlyman @lorettosystem.org if you would like me to send you any forms we use, email me and I will.