TMF
Quality Innovation Network

Immunizations

Improving immunization rates through improved tracking, documentation and reporting with a special focus on reducing immunization health care disparities

A report from the National Center for Health Statistics listed vaccine-preventable diseases—influenza and pneumonia—as the eighth-leading cause of death in the United States. Pneumonia is estimated to kill 53,282 people each year, while adults ages 65 and older make up 90 percent of influenza-related deaths.[1]

Another vaccine-preventable disease is herpes zoster, commonly known as shingles. An estimated 1 million cases of this painful inflammatory disease are reported each year.[2] Even though the herpes zoster vaccine is almost 100 percent effective at preventing severe cases of shingles, only 20 percent of people ages 60 and older are vaccinated.[3]

Despite the risks of these deadly diseases and the availability of effective vaccines, immunization rates for adults remain significantly low, falling well below the Healthy People 2020 targets.[3]

A Community-Based Approach

TMF Health Quality Institute has partnered with the Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care, Primaris in Missouri and the Quality Improvement Professional Research Organization, Inc. in Puerto Rico to form the TMF Quality Innovation Network Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO), under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. The TMF QIN-QIO works as a partner with health care providers and organizations throughout the region of Arkansas, Missouri, Puerto Rico and Texas to increase influenza, pneumonia and herpes zoster immunization rates for Medicare beneficiaries. Through the Immunizations Network, the TMF QIN-QIO engages a widespread community that includes traditional health care providers (e.g., physician offices, home health agencies, hospitals, critical access hospitals), health care partners and organizations (e.g., pharmacies, vaccination centers, community/physician organizations, state/territory agencies and registries, Medicare beneficiary representatives) and other key partners and stakeholders to increase education and awareness of these vaccine-preventable diseases, and increase the immunization rates for these diseases.

Our Goals

By establishing a robust exchange of best practices and coordination of interventions, the TMF QIN-QIO Immunizations Network seeks to achieve larger goals, including:

- Align with Healthy People 2020 goals, realizing national absolute immunization rates of 90 percent for pneumonia, 70 percent for influenza and 30 percent for herpes zoster; and facilitating adult Medicare beneficiary immunization status assessment, appropriate immunization or referral, documentation and reporting to state or other immunization information system via certified electronic health records or other electronic methods.
- Promote the National Adult Immunization Plan of 1 million previously unimmunized Medicare beneficiaries receiving the pneumonia immunizations by 2019.

Thousands of Americans are hospitalized and even die each year due to **vaccine-preventable diseases.**

Flu leads to more than **200,000 hospitalizations** and **36,000 deaths** each year.

Almost **1 out of 3** people in the United States **will develop shingles** in their lifetime.

1 Million

About **1 million** US adults get pneumococcal pneumonia every year.

In its worst form, pneumococcal disease **kills 1 in every 4-5 adults ages 65+.**

Adults 65+

Join the Immunizations Network

Work with industry experts, peers and other stakeholders to improve immunization rates for Medicare beneficiaries.

Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
healthypeople.gov
adultvaccination.org

Key Strategies and Interventions

Benefits to Participating Providers/Community Partners

Participants in the TMF QIN-QIO Immunizations Network will benefit from:

- Virtual affinity group sessions that provide intensive, large-scale technical assistance through networking/peer-building relationships focusing on immunization data analysis, best practice intervention packages, tools, performance improvement interventions and actions for future sustainability.
- Free, ongoing educational webinars by subject matter experts.
- Access to the Patient and Family Engagement Coalition to develop strategies to increase awareness and participation of patients and their families in the patients' care and health.
- Engagement of elected representatives and physician leaders, as well as community organizations and stakeholders, to explore their understanding of the current state of immunization rates and to endorse immunization interventions in their communities.
- Partnerships with physician organizations (e.g., medical associations, county medical societies) and state/territory immunization registry programs to coordinate and co-sponsor outreach and to disseminate educational activities, supporting services to patients and health care staff via their group email lists, newsletters, live meetings and conferences.
- Opportunities to collaborate on and share success stories, lessons learned and strategic action plans for improving immunization assessment, referral, documentation and reporting to the immunization registry.
- Evaluation of resources that home health agencies, pharmacies and vaccination centers use to document shared interventions and techniques to increase community vaccination demand.

Join the Immunizations Network

Visit the TMF QIN-QIO website and locate the Immunizations Network, under the Networks tab, to learn more about this initiative and how you and members of your community can get involved: www.tmfqin.org.

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1. FastStats: Deaths and Mortality; Final Data for 2013. http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr64/nvsr64_02.pdf
2. Incidence of herpes zoster and persistent post-zoster pain in adults with or without diabetes in the United States. http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25734121
3. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, Feb. 7, 2014/63(05);95-102. http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6305a4.htm#Tab1

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