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Vaccine Documentation

A Series on Standards for Adult Immunization Practice



Since patients can get their vaccines from many different healthcare professionals, assessing current vaccination status for patients can be challenging but it is very important.

Keep an up-to-date record of the vaccines your patients have received to make sure they have the best protection against vaccine-preventable diseases.

To ensure patients get the vaccines they need and to prevent unnecessary vaccination, you should:

- Record vaccination in patients' medical records
- Provide documentation of vaccines received to patients for their personal records
- Document vaccinations in immunization information systems (IIS)

IIS are confidential, community-wide, computerized databases that record vaccines administered by participating healthcare professionals. Documenting vaccines into IIS can benefit your practice by:

- Consolidating vaccination records for your patients
- Helping you assess your patients' immunization status
- Making sure your patients have completed necessary vaccine series (for example, all three doses of hepatitis B vaccine)
- Reducing chances for unnecessary doses of vaccine or missed opportunities to provide vaccines
- Facilitating use of reminder and recall notifications to send to patients
- Making calculation of your office's immunization coverage rates easier

For more information on how to access IIS, contact your state coordinator. (See back for details.)

Even if you do not administer vaccines in your office, follow up with your patients to ensure they received the recommended vaccines from another immunization provider.

U.S. vaccination rates for adults are extremely low.

For example:

- Only 20% of adults 19 years or older have received Tdap vaccination.
- Only 28% of adults 60 years or older have received zoster (shingles) vaccination.
- Only 20% of adults 19 to 64 years old, at high risk, have received pneumococcal vaccination.
- Only 44% of adults 18 years or older had received flu vaccination during the 2014–2015 flu season.

Sources: NHIS 2014 (MMWR 2016; 64(4)), BRFSS 2014–2015 (www.cdc.gov/flu/fluview)

For resources and tips on vaccine assessment, recommendation, administration, and referral, visit:

www.cdc.gov/vaccines/adultstandards

**DON'T WAIT.
VACCINATE!**



U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

Resources for Documenting Vaccines Received by Your Patients

- Learn more about Immunization Information Systems (IIS)
www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/iis/training.html
- Reach out to your state's main contact regarding questions about your state or local registry, including whether you may be able to automatically transmit immunization data from your electronic medical records to your state's IIS
www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/iis/contacts-registry-staff.html
- Provide your patient with a vaccine administration record
www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2023.pdf
- Learn how to protect the privacy, confidentiality, and security of your patients' information
www.immregistries.org/resources/privacy-security-confidentiality
- Learn more about meaningful use of Electronic Health Record systems and IIS
www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/iis/meaningful-use/index.html
www.cdc.gov/ehrmeaningfuluse/introduction.html

Documenting vaccinations in IIS fulfills one of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services "Core" Meaningful Use criteria. Learn more at:

www.healthit.gov/providers-professionals/achieve-meaningful-use/core-measures-2/immunization-registries-data-submission

**For more information and resources on adult immunization,
visit: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/adults**