

# Immunization challenges

How we reach our patients  
and improve protection

Dr. Katharine Garnier, M.D.  
UMDNJ-SOM  
52 E Laurel Rd. , ste 2100  
Stratford, N.J. 08084  
[garnieka@UMDNJ.edu](mailto:garnieka@UMDNJ.edu)  
856-566-2864 (p)  
856-566-6188 (f)

## OBJECTIVES:

review

- Vaccine preventable diseases

quantify

- Immunization rates
- goals

define

- Barriers
- partnerships



Hepatitis A

Hepatitis B

icterus

Respiratory illnesses----

pertussis

influenza

pneumococcal



## TRAVEL MEDICINE

Japanese Encephalitis

Rabies

Typhoid

Yellow fever

Tick-borne encephalitis

## recommendations



- **Adolescents to adult-**  
HPV, Meningococcal, Influenza annually, Tdap/Td, MMRV, Hepatitis A and B, (consider polio booster and pneumococcal for special groups).
- **>60** ---shingles vaccine additionally
- **>65**---pneumococcal vaccine, influenza, shingles, (tdap/td possibly).
- Special risk groups have additional recommendations



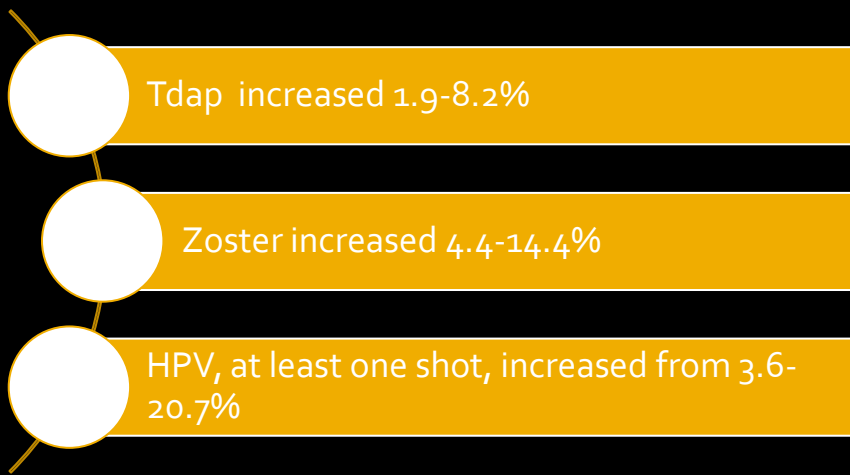
**Adults are 100 times more likely to die of vaccine preventable diseases**

Annually in the U.S. vaccine preventable diseases claim 500 children and 50,000 adults lives

## Where are we??

- N.J. has an overall immunization rate of 86.9% in children.....which makes us 45<sup>th</sup> in the U.S.
- N. J. ranks 6<sup>th</sup> **WORST** in pneumococcal rates
- Tdap rates are only 8.2%, and only 20.3% in HCP
- Pneumococcal rates for under 65 are 18.5%, and over 65 only at 59.7%, with no change from 2009
- Herpes zoster is at 14.4%
- Influenza rates for >65 increased from 61.3% to 78.1% since 2009, still under recommended levels.

## Any successes??



Other vaccination  
rates have remained  
unchanged since 2009,  
**less than 70%**

## REASONS??

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- Lack of education about vaccines, indications, safety and needs
- No memory of severe diseases prevented
- Fear of vaccination safety
- Lack of access
  - hours available for vaccinations
  - no insurance
- Costs

## Physician issues

- Storage requirements
- Expiration of vaccines
- Multi-dose vials
- Hours available
- Cost
  - boxes of 5 or 10 vaccines for small practices
  - reimbursement issues
- Staffing

## Solutions:



- Education of the public, AND HCP
- Increased access
  - work place
  - pharmacies
  - hospitals
  - extended care facilities
  - urgent care centers
- Increased promotion-
  - professional associations
  - public and private advertising



## Global/Practice Solutions:

- Increase vaccination rates **WITHIN** our practices
  - with manual/EMR recall/reminders systems
  - utilize the NJIIS, include your adult patients also
- Institute standing orders for all patient encounters
- Remove financial issues
  - by partnering with manufacturers for coding and purchasing agreements
  - join cooperative purchasing groups
  - Streamline billing by EMR implementation
- Assessment of your own practice immunization rates
- Encourage HCP to get immunized

## Future?

- Development of a **Vaccine For Uninsured Adults** ..(VFUA) similar to VFC program
- Cover under Medicare part B
- Require insurers to cover adult vaccinations

**10 billion dollars annually spent in health care costs related to vaccine preventable diseases!!**

## Partnerships---



## Sources:

- MMWR 2/3/2012 61(04) 66-72
- CDC National Health Interview Survey, 2010
- Trust for America's Health
- ACIP
- Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Vaccine Education Center
- Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Vaccine Resources: websites