IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM & INCREASING RATES

Rebecca Martinez, BSN, RN
NDHHS Immunization Program Manager

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- We have been asked to disclose any significant relationships with commercial entities that are either providing financial support for this program or whose products or services are mentioned during our presentations. We have no relationships to disclose. We will not discuss the use of vaccines in a manner not approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and/or recommended by the ACIP.
Objectives

- Discuss Immunization Program’s mission & role
- List sources of immunization coverage assessment data
- Provide Nebraska specific data
- Describe programs available and funding
- Outline activities and initiatives in Nebraska to increase rates

Mission Statement & Role

**VACCINATION**

- The mission of the Nebraska Immunization Program is to support all providers in their efforts to protect Nebraska residents from vaccine preventable diseases, disability, and death by:
  - Assessing immunization records and vaccination rates.
  - Collecting and managing immunization data through online reporting systems and overseeing distribution of publicly-funded vaccines.
  - Facilitating communication about vaccine safety, efficacy, and use of vaccines within the broad immunization community of patients, providers, healthcare organizations and government health agencies.
  - Providing educational materials for the general public and healthcare providers.
Assessing immunization records and vaccination rates including disparities

- Nebraska State Immunization Information System (NESIIS)
- National Immunization Survey (NIS)
- NIS – Child
- NIS – Teen
- NIS – Flu
- Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)
- VaxView
  - CDC’s VaxView website contains tabs to view other assessments
  - https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vaxview/index.html

Collecting and managing immunization data through on-line reporting systems

- Nebraska School Survey – Immunization Assessment Report – 173 NAC 3
  - On-line survey moving to different on-line format for 2018-2019
  - Assesses rates of Kindergarteners, 7th Graders, & Out of State Transfers
  - Kindergarten data used for CDC’s nationwide Kindergarten report
- Nebraska Childcare Survey - Immunization Assessment Report – 173 NAC 4
  - 2017-2018 was first on-line format
  - Assesses rates age 3 – 72 months
- Perinatal Hepatitis B Case Management
- Vaccine Preventable Disease reporting & management
- AFIX Program
  - Assesses individual enrolled provider immunization rates & monitors progress of quality improvement strategies; can look at aggregate data across Nebraska
Vaccination Coverage in Nebraska

Overseeing Distribution of Publically Funded Vaccine

- **Birth Dose Hospital Program (BDH)**
  - State Hepatitis B Vaccine
  - Universal Eligibility – all newborns
  - Approximately 21 Enrolled Birth Dose Hospitals (BDH)

- **Vaccines for Children Program (VFC)**
  - Federal VFC Vaccine through CDC – population based allocation
  - All Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) Recommended Vaccines
  - VFC Eligibility – Age 0 through 18 & Medicaid, Uninsured, Underinsured, or American Indian / Alaska Native
  - Approximately 277 Enrolled VFC Providers

- **Adult Immunization Program (AIP)**
  - Federal 317 Vaccine – limited discretionary based allocation
  - Limited types of vaccine and funds are also for outbreak response
  - AIP Eligibility – Age 19 and older & Uninsured or Underinsured
  - Approximately 35 Enrolled AIP Providers
Facilitating communication & providing education

- Subscribe to our website page at dhhs.ne.gov/immunization
  - Quarterly Immunization Program Updates and posted notifications and education
  - Links to on-line CDC Immunization Resources
    - ACIP Immunization Schedules
    - Vaccine Information Statements (VIS)
    - Vaccine Adverse Event Report System (VAERS) Education
    - Healthcare Provider Education
    - Parent Education
- Enrolled Provider Mailing and Blast Fax / Email Communications
  - Mailed Quarterly Immunization Program Updates including educational materials and current ACIP schedules
  - Email and fax communication memos including education and educational opportunities
  - Complementary 13th edition of CDC’s Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases
  - Annual influenza informational package including current season’s guidance and frequently asked questions
- The Nebraska Immunization Program is available Monday – Friday 8am – 5pm CST to provide education and answer questions

ACIP Recommended Immunization Schedules
Persons Ages 0 – 18 years & Adult (Updated Annually)
Always look at the footnotes and catch-up schedule for details
Other Activities & Initiatives

- Performing compliance site visits to enrolled VFC, AIP, and BDH providers
  - Assessing compliance with federal and state program requirements
  - Reviewing vaccine management and storage and handling practices
- Collaboration to send cards to promote timely vaccination on schedule
- Subrecipient monitoring of subawards issued for the purpose of increasing immunization coverage rates.
- Collaborate within DHHS to secure funding sources to the extent possible.

Other Activities & Initiatives

- Supporting Vaccine Preventable Disease (VPD) epidemiology activities.
- Proposing changes to regulations as needed for public health.
- Education, Outreach, & Collaboration
  - Tribes, long-term care organizations, Medicaid and Managed Care Organizations, enhanced AFIX for large health system collaboration, refugee service providers, nurse publication messaging, childcare provider education, and collaboration with NESIIS to help increase reporting.
Role of the Provider

- 5 Ways for Providers to Raise Immunization Coverage Levels in Patients
  - American Academy of Pediatrics
    - Maximize all appropriate opportunities to vaccinate
    - Give all the vaccines to which they are eligible
    - Use only valid contraindications
    - Assess immunization status and immunize at all visits
    - Implement aggressive reminder recall systems

AFIX
in Nebraska
Karen Rutherford BSN, RN
AFIX Coordinator
90's - Easy 60's

Assessment
Selection for AFIX visit

50% in the lowest quartile
Clinics receiving sub-awards
Large “group” of clinics
Clinics that have been approximately 4 years since last AFIX
Clinics requesting an AFIX

Data taken from NESIIS

Reports ran on ages:
• 24-35 mo. (UTD by 24 mo.)
• Teens 13-17 years
• Teen 13-14 years
Reports include:
• Report card - overall rates of different age groups and different vaccines, including NE rates & Healthy People 2020 goals
• Missing immunizations
• Missed opportunities
• Invalid doses

Feedback
Results from the reports are shared with clinic
21 questions about office practices are discussed
These questions are relate to research done that have
shown to increase immunization rates
Clinics choose 2 Quality Improvement measures to work
on over the next 3-6 months

Strategies to improve the quality of immunization services
Do you schedule the next vaccination visit before the
patients/parents leave the office?

Strategies to decrease missed opportunities
Do you train front desk/scheduling staff so they know
when it's appropriate to schedule immunization
appointments?

Strategies to improve NESIIS functionality and data quality
Do you use NESIIS to determine which immunizations are
due for each patient at every visit?
Study done in 2016 by Perkins RB, et al. in Human that addressed why adolescents do not finish the HPV series.

Top reason for physicians was: 52% expected the parents to make an appointment.

Top reason for parents was 65% expected a reminder to schedule an appointment.

Incentive
Incentives help motivate providers to develop more effective immunization delivery systems that help increase immunization rates.

These include:
- Information regarding state rates
- Educational information provided relating to QI’s chosen
- Certificate for those achieving Health People 2020 goals for 2 year olds and for HPV
Checking on progress on QI’s – if not 100% implemented, clinic will be asked another time about progress
Clinic rates reran and reports shared with clinic

Thank You!
See the Display Table
Questions?
Rebecca Martinez, BSN, RN
Rebecca.A.Martinez@Nebraska.gov
Karen Rutherford, BSN, RN
Karen.Rutherford@Nebraska.gov
dhhs.ne.gov/immunization