

Immunization Update 2017

Questions for Panel answered

- As a nurse, when a patient says they are declining a vaccination, should I be making an effort to steer them to getting the vaccination?

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/patient-ed/educating-patients.html>

- Can you help me know how to respond to parents who are concerned about vaccine preservatives and/or vaccine combinations?

<http://www.immunize.org/talking-about-vaccines/adjuvants.asp>

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/conversations/downloads/fs-combo-vac.pdf>

- HPV and the possible long term side effects that patients read about. The negatives of HPV and how to best address concerns.

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/vaccines/hpv/hpv-safety-faqs.html>

- How to interact with parents who decline immunizations?

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/patient-ed/parents-questions.html>

<http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2070.pdf>

- Please discuss how to respond to concerns about HPV being linked to poorly understood neurologic disorders.

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/vaccines/hpv-vaccine.html>

No increased risk of GBS after HPV vaccine

Girls ages 12-18 given HPV vaccine in England were not found to have any increased risk of Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) after receipt of HPV vaccine. [Read more](#)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28245941>

- what is the best way to combat HPV refusal by pediatric parents

<https://www.cdc.gov/hpv/hcp/for-hcp-tipsheet-hpv.html>

Other questions

- If a child receives a Tdap at 11 years of age, will they get a second Tdap dose when they are an adult?

Who should get a second dose of Tdap vaccine? Only pregnant women are recommended to receive more than 1 dose of Tdap. ACIP has not recommended Tdap revaccination for any other group including healthcare providers.

http://www.immunize.org/askexperts/experts_per.asp#tdap

- Would like more info on the best way to present vaccines and the benefits of vaccines to hesitant patients

<http://www.immunize.org/handouts/discussing-vaccines-parents.asp>

- Does the Zoster vaccine need to be repeated to protect you from shingles?

http://www.immunize.org/askexperts/experts_zos.asp

- Is it better to get a flu shot earlier in the season or later?

We have noticed that ACIP recommends that we begin vaccinating with seasonal influenza vaccine in September or even earlier. Does protection from seasonal influenza vaccine decline or wane within 3 or 4 months of vaccination? Should I wait until later in the year to vaccinate my elderly or medically frail patients?

ACIP recommends that to avoid missed opportunities for vaccination, providers should offer vaccination during routine healthcare visits and hospitalizations as soon as it becomes available. Antibody to inactivated influenza vaccine declines in the months following vaccination. A study conducted during the 2011–12 influenza season (*Euro Surveill* 2013;18:20388) found a decline in vaccine effectiveness late in influenza season, primarily affecting persons age 65 years and older. While delaying vaccination might permit greater immunity later in the season, deferral could result in missed opportunities to vaccinate, as well as difficulties in vaccinating a large number of people within a more limited time period. Vaccination programs should balance maximizing the likelihood of persistence of vaccine-induced protection through the season with avoiding missed opportunities to vaccinate or vaccinating after influenza virus circulation begins. Revaccination later in the season of people who have already been fully vaccinated is not recommended.

http://www.immunize.org/askexperts/experts_inf.asp

- Why are some patients indicated for more than 1 dose of either Pneumonia vaccine?

<http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2019.pdf>

Talking about Vaccines

Responding to Concerns About Vaccines

The purpose of this section is to provide medical professionals with background information and practical resources that will help them discuss immunization with concerned parents or patients. Because people question vaccination for different reasons, we have divided this section into different topics.

- Adjuvants and Ingredients
- Alternative Medicine
- Autism
- Countering Dr. Sears
- Importance of Vaccines
- MMR Vaccine
- Religious Concerns
- Responding to Parents
- Thimerosal
- Too Many Vaccines?
- Vaccine Safety

In summary, dealing with patient's/parent's concerns about immunizations, the panelists agreed on some basic guidelines:

- Learn what the patient/parent is concerned about—listen and respect the person. Welcome questions.
- Acknowledge their concern and agree you both want what is best for the patient
- Share your information and expertise—strongly recommend the vaccine, because it is the best healthy choice for the child/patient. You have clinical expertise which gives you facts and confidence to recommend the vaccine.
- Address risk vs benefit of vaccine vs disease. Acknowledge side effects, but also inform of the real risk also of not being immunized. Millions of doses given for any vaccine with no actual safety risk demonstrated when following vaccine recommendations.
- Share personal experience with the vaccine or disease “I immunized my children at the recommended ages/I am fully immunized”
- Let them know the concerns of recommended vaccines will be brought up at each visit until the patient is fully immunized, because it is important for good health and safety –of all the clinic patients.