

THE CENTER FOR WELLNESS



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INTRODUCTION

We are in August! In this month's newsletter, the Quality department will highlight immunizations. Due to COVID-19 continued presence, it is important to ensure patients are exercising precaution and leading a healthy lifestyle. Because we are entering the fall season, being up to date with immunizations is an important part of global health awareness and education.

Now, more than ever, it is important to do screenings for various health measures as awareness has encouraged people to seek out help and resources.

With vaccinations being made available, we encourage people to get vaccinated when possible and continue to get preventative screenings.

VACCINE FACTS

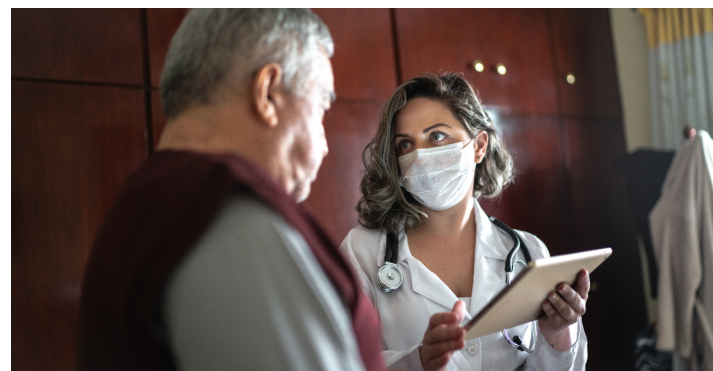
In the U.S., vaccines have greatly reduced or eliminated many infectious diseases that once routinely killed or harmed infants, children, and adults. However, the viruses and bacteria that cause these diseases still exist and you can still get these diseases if you aren't vaccinated.

Vaccines can lower your chance of getting certain diseases. Vaccines work with your body's natural defenses to help you safely develop immunity to disease. This lowers your chances of getting certain diseases and suffering from their complications. For instance:

- Hepatitis B vaccine lowers your risk of liver cancer.
- HPV vaccine lowers your risk of cervical cancer.
- Flu vaccine lowers your risk of flu-related heart attacks or other flu-related complications from existing health conditions like diabetes and chronic lung disease.

Vaccines lower your chance of spreading disease.

- Some people in your family or community may not be able to get certain vaccines due to their age or health condition. They rely on you to help prevent the spread of disease.
- Infants, older adults, and people with weakened immune systems (like those undergoing cancer treatment) are especially vulnerable to infectious disease.



Henry J. Austin (HJAH) , through the help of the Quality Improvement team hope to ensure all populations have received the necessary ad required vaccinations.



NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS MONTH AUGUST

IMMUNIZATION MEASURE & OUTREACH

The Childhood Immunizations (fully immunized) measure satisfaction guidelines, in our EMR, is as follows:

Description

Percentage of children 2 years of age who had four diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis (DTaP); three polio (IPV), one measles, mumps and rubella (MMR); three or four H influenza type B (HiB); three Hepatitis B (Hep B); one chicken pox (VZV); four pneumococcal conjugate (PCV); one Hepatitis A (Hep A); two or three rotavirus (RV); and two influenza (flu) vaccines by their second birthday.

Patient Identification

Age: Children turning 2 years of age during the reporting period

Encounter: An office or preventive care visits (CPT: 99202-99205, 99211-99215, 99341-99345, 99347-99350, 99381-99387, 99391-99397) during the reporting period along with a FQHC medical visit during the reporting period.

Not included in the population:

Patients under hospice care during the measurement period.

NOTE: Hospice can be documented selecting any one of the following as an active problem in the patients problem list:

- Hospice care
- Hospice care management

Measure Satisfaction

Measure is satisfied if children receive Four diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis (DTaP); three polio (IPV), four pneumococcal conjugate (PCV), three or four H influenza type B (HiB), two or three rotavirus (RV) between 42 days to 2 years of age.

AND

One Hepatitis A (Hep A), three Hepatitis B (Hep B), one chicken pox (VZV), one measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) by second birthday

AND

Two influenza (flu) vaccines between 180 days to 2 years of age.

The measure can also be satisfied by any of the following methods

- By documenting a valid CPT in claims or valid vaccine administered

- SNOMED descriptions in Problem section DTaP (CPT: 90698, 90700, 90723)
- By documenting a valid diagnosis using suitable ICD 10 codes / SNOMED
- By manually asserting the individual vaccination measures in the Quality tab of patient chart with a date during measurement period.

COMMUNITY HEALTH OUTREACH

HJAHC in partnership with the community clinics and resident staff have found a way to ensure patients are receiving their necessary vaccines. Because we are still in a pandemic that has expanded beyond the original strain, exercising precaution whilst providing patients necessary medical care in a **TIMELY** manner has become a crucial matter. Thankfully, our residents and the mobile health unit have been working hard to service our community.

"How do we get kids here to the center to get vaccinated?"

Advanced Practice Nurse Resident Sara Jurado, discusses that two of the questions that she and her fellow residents wanted to answer in providing vaccinations to the community, are "how do we get kids here to the center to get vaccinated? and "how do we spread the word to parents?" As a response to the pandemic constraints, the NJ Department of Health (NJDOH) and City of Trenton felt it important to increase vaccinations for the coronavirus. The residents and mobile health unit wanted to take the opportunity to go around and provide vaccines for the underserved people of Trenton, while also providing immunizations for children. Jurado explains that communication between all contributors have been integral in creating a functional schedule for the mobile unit. Currently the mobile health unit is working on ramping up advertisement for their services.

Our age range of focus for our health center is vaccination rates among children between the ages 5 to 11 years old. Below displays our current percentages for the ages mentioned above. HJAHC continues to focus on priority areas of interest with the help of the Quality and clinical teams including our new residents.



Measure Type	August
DTaP Child	39%
Hepatitis A Child	53%
Hepatitis B Child	51%
Hib Child	50%
HPV child	3%
Influenza Child (Aug - Mar)	21%
IPV Child	52%
Meningococcal A, C, W, Y vaccination	0%
MMR child	54%
Pneumococcal Child	50%
Tdap Child Booster	6%
Varicella child	26%



QUALITY GOALS

Ensuring that these screenings are being satisfied, we are collaborating and utilizing all our resources to ensure our patients receive quality care. Our EMR, Athena, is primary resource we use in satisfying immunization measures.

In addition, as variants of COVID-19 are present, Henry J. Austin Health Center efforts are primarily focused on responding to our patient population needs in COVID-19 testing, providing vaccinations and flu shots.



SCORECARD

Henry J. Austin Health Center's monthly scorecard highlights or year to date (YTD) performance on 14 of our priority quality measures on an organizational level.

The scorecard is a fundamental aid to drive and monitor quality improvement at Henry J. Austin Health Center.

Measure Type	Program	August
Childhood immunizations - Fully	UDS	25%
Childhood immunizations - DTaP	UDS	54%
Childhood immunizations - hepatitis A	UDS	78%
Childhood immunizations - hepatitis B	UDS	57%
Childhood immunizations - Hib	UDS	52%
Childhood immunizations - IPV	UDS	72%
Childhood immunizations - MMR	UDS	81%
Childhood immunizations - pneumococcal conjugate vaccine	UDS	50%
Childhood immunizations - rotavirus	UDS	67%
Childhood immunizations - seasonal influenza	UDS	61%
Childhood immunizations - VZV	UDS	78%

Scorecard Key

Measure type

UDS

2020 Baseline

Average baseline percentage met for each measure

Variance

performance growth from month to month.

Goal

2021 Goal Mark

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QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Quality is never an accident. It is
always an intelligent effort."

- John Ruskin

