

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases



Communicating About Vaccines

Mid America Immunization Coalition Annual Symposium

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Disclosures

- **JoEllen Wolicki is a federal government employee with no financial interest in or conflict with the manufacturer of any product named in this presentation**
- **The speaker will not discuss the off-label use of any vaccines**
- **The speaker will not discuss a vaccine not currently licensed by the FDA**

Vaccines Are Good 😊 Disease is Bad ☹️

- Vaccines protect children and adults from 16 serious diseases and potential complications
- There are record low rates of vaccine-preventable diseases



And Yet....

**Flu vaccine
gave me the
flu!**

**Flu vaccine
doesn't work.**

**Immunity
from disease
is better!**

**I don't need a
flu shot...
I never get the
flu.**

**Influenza is
not a serious
illness.**

**The side effects
from a vaccine are
worse than the
disease!**

**I'm pregnant
so I can't get
vaccinated.**

**Vaccines can
make people
walk backwards.**

**I am allergic to
eggs so I can't
be vaccinated.**

**Vaccines
cause
Alzheimer's
disease.**

**Vaccines
weaken your
body's immune
response.**

Estimated Vaccination Coverage among Children Aged 19–35 Months, NIS 2016

State/Area	Combined Series* 4:3:1:3:3:1:4
United States	70.7%

*The combined (4:3:1:3:3:1:4) vaccine series includes ≥ 4 doses of DTaP, ≥ 3 doses of poliovirus vaccine, ≥ 1 dose of measles-containing vaccine, full series of Hib vaccine (≥ 3 or ≥ 4 doses, depending on product type), ≥ 3 doses of HepB, ≥ 1 dose of varicella vaccine, and ≥ 4 doses of PCV



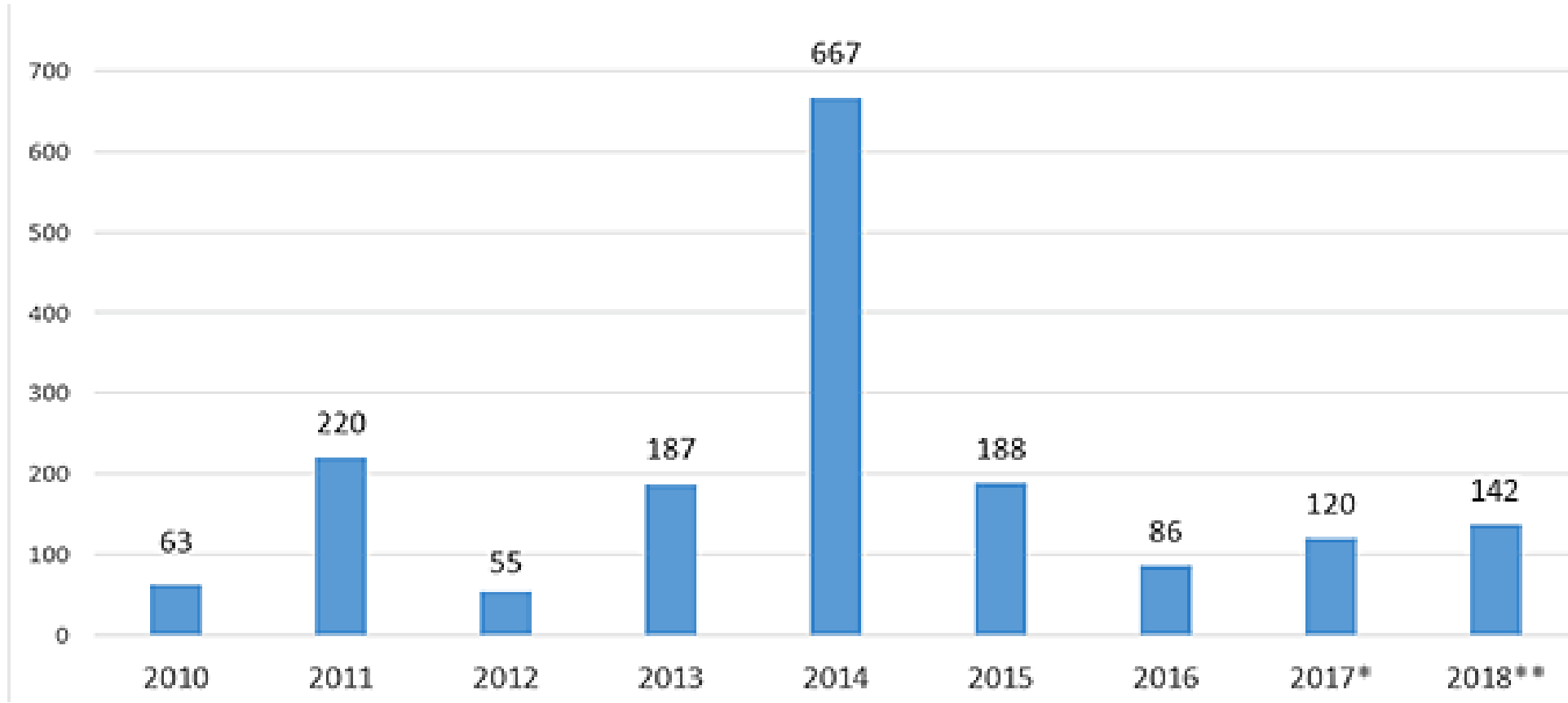
Estimated Vaccination Coverage among Adolescents Aged 13–17 Years, NIS-Teen, 2017

Vaccine	United States
≥ 1 Tdap or Td	88.0%
≥ 1 HPV (M and F)	60.4%
≥ 2 HPV (M and F)	49.2%
≥ 3 HPV (M and F)	37.1%
≥ 1 MenACWY	82.2%

“Costs” of Under-Vaccination

- **Under-vaccinated tend to remain under-vaccinated**
 - Outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases
 - Pertussis
 - Varicella
 - Mumps
 - Measles

Number of Measles Cases Reported By Year 2000–2018*



The number of US reported cases in 2018 is similar to recent years and is in the expected range.

*Cases as of December 30, 2017. Case count is preliminary and subject to change.

**Cases as of October 6, 2018. Case count is preliminary and subject to change. Data are updated monthly.

“Costs” of Vaccine Hesitancy

- **Increased pain/trauma for children from multiple visits**
 - 84% of pediatricians think it is more painful for children to administer vaccines over multiple visits than to give them simultaneously
- **Less time to spend on other preventive health issues**
 - Average visit = 18 minutes
- **Reports of physician burnout**



Vaccine Hesitancy and Health Care Personnel

- **Survey among pediatricians nationally**
 - Almost all providers encounter requests to spread out vaccines and, despite concerns, increasing numbers of providers are agreeing to do so
 - 60% reported spending more than 10 minutes discussing vaccines in visits with vaccine-hesitant parents
 - 46% agreed that their job was less satisfying because of the need to discuss vaccines with vaccine-hesitant parents

Vaccine Conversations

- **Answering questions can be challenging**
 - Staff is not always prepared for questions
 - Real-life time constraints
 - Frustrating! Correcting misconceptions can successfully reduce misperceptions, but does not always result in vaccination

What Usually Happens When There Are Vaccine Questions?

- **The provider might ask why the patient does not want the vaccine**
- **Often patients will state all the reasons they do not want to be vaccinated**
 - In the process, the patient strengthen their resolve against the vaccination
- **The provider is vulnerable to falling into conversation traps**

Communication Traps



**Persuasion
trap**



**Data
dump trap**



**Q and A
trap**

Persuasion Trap

- When the provider becomes the champion for the vaccine and tries to convince the hesitant or resistant patient of the benefits
- This usually ends up in an argumentative type of “yes, but” cycle



The Lecture (Data Dump) Trap

- The tendency here is to provide the full story about some aspect of the vaccine
- This often ends up putting people off and raising resistance because it implies that they don't know the full story and you're going to give it to them
- Also, it can be counterproductive because you end up raising concerns that the patient had not previously considered



The Question and Answer Trap

- When the provider begins asking a series of closed questions that require a yes or no answer and does not invite any additional information or thoughts



What Do We Know? Vaccine Communication Research

Communicating About Vaccines

- There is much research on parents' knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs about vaccines
- Little research on what communication techniques actually *change parents' behavior*
- Research in this area is complicated
- We've been focused on the "what" more than the "how"

Conventional Wisdom

- **Improve parents' knowledge and they will make the right decision**
- **This educational approach assumes human decision-making is rational**
- **Behavioral economics: human behavior is influenced by deep-seated cognitive biases resistant to rational influence**



Vaccine Messages Research

- Pro-vaccine messages do not always work as intended
- The effectiveness of those messages may vary depending on existing parental attitudes toward vaccines
- For some parents, they may actually increase misperceptions or reduce vaccination intention

ARTICLE

Effective Messages in Vaccine Promotion: A Randomized Trial

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KEY WORDS

vaccines, myths, MMR, autism, false, misperceptions, misinformation

ABBREVIATIONS

aOR—adjusted odds ratio
CDC—Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
MMR—measles-mumps-rubella

WHAT'S KNOWN ON THIS SUBJECT: Maintaining high levels of measles-mumps-rubella immunization is an important public health priority that has been threatened by discredited claims about the safety of the vaccine. Relatively little is known about what messages are effective in overcoming parental reluctance to vaccinate.

WHAT THIS STUDY ADDS: Pro-vaccine messages do not always work as intended. The effectiveness of those messages may vary depending on existing parental attitudes toward vaccines. For some parents, they may actually increase misperceptions or reduce vaccination intention.

Vaccine Messages Research

- **Parents were randomly assigned to receive 1 of 4 interventions**
 - Info from CDC explaining lack of evidence that MMR vaccine causes autism
 - Info on measles, mumps and rubella from VIS
 - Images of children with measles, mumps, and rubella
 - Dramatic narrative about severe case of measles; or to a control group



Vaccine Messages Research

- **None of the interventions increased parental intent to vaccinate**
- **Refuting claims of MMR/autism link decreased intent to vaccinate among parents who were least favorable toward vaccination**
- **Images of sick children increased expressed belief in vaccine/autism link**
- **Dramatic narrative increased self-reported belief in serious vaccine side effects**



What Does This Mean?

- **Becoming increasingly clear that simply correcting knowledge gaps—whether through informational brochures, community campaigns, or direct provider conversations—is often not enough to address parents’ concerns about vaccines**
- **Investigators are now focusing on developing interventions to improve vaccination uptake focused on how people actually think rather than how they ought to think**
 - Remember—correcting misconceptions, can successfully reduce misperceptions but does not always result in vaccination



Beginning the Conversation

- Studies have looked at how provider vaccine communication behaviors influence parental vaccination acceptance and visit experience
- Investigators looked at presumptive versus participatory approaches

The Influence of Provider Communication Behaviors on Parental Vaccine Acceptance and Visit Experience

Douglas J. Opel, MD, MPH, Rita Mangione-Smith, MD, MPH, Jeffrey D. Robinson, PhD, John Heritage, PhD, Victoria DeVero, BS, Halle S. Salas, MPH, Chuan Zhou, PhD, and James A. Taylor, MD

Parental refusal or delay of childhood vaccines is a growing public health concern.¹⁻³ It is an important contributor to underimmunization⁴ and raises the risk of a child developing and transmitting vaccine-preventable disease.⁵⁻⁷ However, little is known about how to increase vaccine acceptance among vaccine-hesitant parents.⁸

Evidence suggests that improving provider-parent communication about vaccines may increase parental vaccine acceptance. Provider-parent communication is a key factor in parental decision making about childhood vaccines^{9,10} and presents opportunities for improvement.¹¹⁻¹⁴ Although some general communication guidelines have been disseminated for providers to use with vaccine-hesitant parents,¹⁵⁻¹⁶ improvement efforts have been complicated by minimal data on the effectiveness of specific vaccine communication strategies.^{17,18}

Objectives. We investigated how provider vaccine communication behaviors influence parental vaccination acceptance and visit experience.

Methods. In a cross-sectional observational study, we videotaped provider-parent vaccine discussions (n = 111). We coded visits for the format providers used for initiating the vaccine discussion (participatory vs presumptive), parental verbal resistance to vaccines after provider initiation (yes vs no), and provider pursuit of recommendations in the face of parental resistance (pursuit vs mitigated or no pursuit). Main outcomes were parental verbal acceptance of recommended vaccines at visit's end (all vs ≥1 refusal) and parental visit experience (high vs lower scores).

ARTICLE

The Architecture of Provider-Parent Vaccine Discussions at Health Supervision Visits

AUTHORS: Douglas J. Opel, MD, MPH^{1,2,3*}, John Heritage, PhD,⁴ James A. Taylor, MD,⁵ Rita Mangione-Smith, MD, MPH,^{6,7} Halle Showalter Salas, MPH,⁸ Victoria DeVero, BS,⁹ Chuan Zhou, PhD,¹⁰ and Jeffrey D. Robinson, PhD¹¹

¹Department of Pediatrics, University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, Washington; ²Preuman Katz Center for Pediatric Bioethics and ³Seattle Children's Research Institute, Seattle, Washington; ⁴Department of Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California; and ⁵Department of Communication, Portland State University, Portland, Oregon

KEY WORDS: immunization, health communication, preventive health services

ABBREVIATIONS: CA—conversation analysis; MHP—non-vaccine-hesitant parent; PACV—Parent Attitudes about Childhood Vaccine; VHP—vaccine-hesitant parent

WHAT'S KNOWN ON THIS SUBJECT: An increasing number of parents have concerns about childhood vaccines. Parents consistently cite their child's provider as influential in their vaccine decision-making. Little is known about how providers communicate with parents about vaccines and which communication strategies are important.

WHAT THIS STUDY ADDS: How providers initiate the vaccine recommendation at health supervision visits appears to be an important determinant of parent resistance. Also, when providers pursue their original vaccine recommendations in the face of parental resistance, many parents subsequently agree to vaccination.

How You Start the Conversation Matters

- **The best predictor of vaccination was how the provider started the conversation**
 - For both vaccine hesitant and non-hesitant patients



Participatory versus Presumptive Approach

- **Participatory: provides more decision-making latitude**
 - Example: “Have you thought about what shots you’d like today?”
- **Presumptive: presupposes that parents would get the child vaccinated**
 - Example: “We have some vaccines due today.”

Participatory versus Presumptive Approach

- Among ALL parents, a larger proportion resisted vaccine recommendations when providers used a participatory rather than presumptive initiation format (83% vs 26%; $P < .001$)
- This finding remained true among vaccine-hesitant parents (89% vs 30%; $P < .001$)



Why Presumptive Style Might Be Better

- **Most patients perceive decisions about vaccination to be complicated**
- **As humans, when we make decisions we perceive to be complicated, we tend to have a status quo bias (also called a default bias), meaning we go with what is expected or “normal”**
- **Using a presumptive approach, patients are made to feel that vaccination is what most people do, and it is the socially acceptable “norm”**



Social Norms

- Social norms can have a powerful influence on health behaviors
- There is some evidence that suggests this can extend to vaccination
 - 1990's study suggested university students were more likely to receive influenza vaccine if they were told most students opted for flu vaccination

Increasing Vaccination: Putting Psychological Science Into Action

Noel T. Brewer, Gretchen B. Chapman, Alexander J. Rothman, more...

[Show all authors](#) ▾

First Published April 3, 2018 | Research Article



<https://doi.org/10.1177/1529100618760521>

[Article information](#) ▾



Abstract

Vaccination is one of the great achievements of the 20th century, yet persistent public-health problems include inadequate, delayed, and unstable vaccination uptake. Psychology offers three general propositions for understanding and intervening to increase uptake where vaccines are available and affordable. The first proposition is that *thoughts and feelings* can motivate getting vaccinated. Hundreds of studies have shown that risk beliefs and anticipated regret about infectious disease correlate reliably with getting vaccinated; low confidence in vaccine effectiveness and concern about safety correlate reliably with not getting vaccinated. We were surprised to find that few randomized trials have successfully changed what people think and feel about vaccines, and those few that succeeded were minimally effective in increasing uptake. The second proposition is that *social processes* can motivate getting vaccinated. Substantial research has shown that social norms are associated with vaccination, but few interventions examined whether normative messages increase vaccination uptake. Many experimental studies have relied on hypothetical scenarios to demonstrate that altruism and free riding (i.e., taking advantage of the protection provided by others) can affect intended behavior, but few randomized trials have tested strategies to change social processes to increase vaccination uptake. The third proposition is that interventions can *facilitate vaccination directly* by leveraging, but not trying to change, what people think and feel. These interventions are by far the most plentiful and effective in the literature. To increase vaccine uptake, these interventions build on existing favorable intentions by facilitating action (through reminders, prompts, and primes) and reducing barriers (through logistics and healthy defaults); these interventions also shape behavior (through incentives, sanctions, and requirements). Although identification of

What YOU Say Matters

- Providers are a patient's most trusted source of information on vaccines
- Research shows a patient who receives a strong recommendation from a provider is 4–5 times more likely to be vaccinated*
- “Bundle” all needed vaccines into the same recommendation

*2007 National Survey of Children's Health. Factors associated with human papillomavirus vaccine-series initiation and health care provider recommendation in U.S. adolescent females. *Vaccine* 2012;30(20):3112-3118

What YOU Say Matters

Part 2

- When providers maintain their original vaccine recommendations in the face of parental resistance, many parents subsequently agree to vaccination

ARTICLE

The Architecture of Provider-Parent Vaccine Discussions at Health Supervision Visits

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^aDepartment of Pediatrics, University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, Washington; ^bTreuman Katz Center for Pediatric Bioethics and ^cSeattle Children's Research Institute, Seattle, Washington; ^dDepartment of Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California; and ^eDepartment of Communication, Portland State University, Portland, Oregon

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WHAT THIS STUDY ADDS: How providers initiate the vaccine recommendation at health supervision visits appears to be an important determinant of parent resistance. Also, when providers pursue their original vaccine recommendations in the face of parental resistance, many parents subsequently agree to vaccination.

What You Say Matters AND How You Say It Matters

- **Good recommendation = simple, strong, bundled, and personalized**
 - “Now that Danny is 11, he is due for vaccinations to help protect against meningitis, HPV cancers, and whooping cough. We’ll give those shots during today’s visit.”

VERSUS

- “Research suggests that persons vaccinated with HPV vaccine have a decreased chance of contracting HPV diseases such as penile and anogenital cancers or genital warts. Would you like Danny vaccinated today?”

Social Norms and Vaccination Conversations

- **Provider recommendation can create and communicate social norm for vaccination by:**
 - Presumptive style
 - Strong recommendation
 - Indicating most patients do vaccinate
- **Communicates the expectation is TO vaccinate**

Communication Best Practices

Real Life and Talking About Vaccines

- **Consistent messages to patients from all staff is difficult to manage, time consuming**
- **Time for vaccine questions and answers during clinical encounters is limited**
- **Staff can have differing responses to vaccine conversations:**
 - Defeated if, after answering questions, the child or patient goes unvaccinated
 - Inadequate; not up to the task
- **Vaccine conversations need to be effective AND efficient**

Framing the Conversation

- Several different communication approaches or frameworks are taught during medical and nursing programs
- No evidence has established a single, best practice to address parents concerns

Increasing Vaccination: Putting Psychological Science Into Action

Noel T. Brewer, Gretchen B. Chapman, Alexander J. Rothman, more...

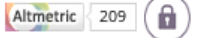
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Motivational Interviewing

- **Motivational interviewing has not been tested and proven effective for convincing those who are hesitant about vaccination**
- **HOWEVER, it has been shown to be effective in other health interventions, including:**
 - Diabetes self care
 - Smoking cessation
 - Cognitive behavioral therapy



Motivational Interviewing

- **Motivational interviewing (MI) is a patient-centered, guiding communication style for enhancing a person's own motivation for change or behavioral activation**
- **Engages the patient respectfully and fully in the discussion**
- **The 4 elements include:**
 - Empathy
 - Collaboration
 - Evocation
 - Support for autonomy



Using Motivational Interviewing for Vaccine Discussions

- **Motivational interviewing includes:**
 - Open-ended questions
 - Affirmations
 - Reflection
 - Summary
- **Remember to:**
 - Include a presumptive approach
 - Strong, simple and personalized recommendation
 - Social norms



MI Case Study: Vaccine Conversations

- **11 year old girl comes to your facility for adolescent vaccines**
- **You start the conversation using the presumptive style**
 - “Great, you’re here for vaccines. We can do her tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis vaccine, her HPV vaccine, her meningitis vaccine and flu vaccine today.”

MI Case Study: Vaccine Conversations

- Her mother says, “We are okay with the tetanus, meningitis and flu shot, but I think we’re going to hold off on HPV vaccine.”

MI Case Study: Vaccine Conversations

- HCP then asks in a non-threatening way to share the patient's concerns

“It sounds like you have concerns about HPV vaccine. I’ve has a number of parents with questions about this vaccine. Would you mind sharing your concern?”

“Well, I’ve heard that HPV is sexually transmitted and she is a long way from having sex, so I don’t think she needs it.”

MI Case Study: Vaccine Conversations

- HCP reflects back what the patient is saying to be sure he/she understands (empathy) and summarizes what has been heard before proceeding, again with permission, to make a recommendation

“If I understand you correctly, you are concerned that she is too young for HPV vaccine because it’s a sexually transmitted disease. I had this same concern with the vaccine was first licensed. I’ve researched this. Can I share what I learned?”



MI Case Study: Vaccine Conversations

Strong Recommendation

- **It is true that HPV is a sexually transmitted but the vaccine is really about preventing disease. And HPV causes cancer. HPV vaccine prevents cancer. Almost everyone is exposed to this virus, so the vaccine is an important cancer prevention tool for everyone.”**
- **AND If possible, put the concern into a perspective the family can relate to**



Additional Strategy

- Use examples the parent/patient can relate to

“Just like we use a seat belt every time we drive a car—not just in the winter when it snows. We give HPV vaccine now, BEFORE there is any chance she can be exposed to HPV.”

MI Case Study: Vaccine Conversations

Personal Recommendation and Social Norm

- Now, its time for a simple, strong, and personalized recommendation
- End the conversation with an open-ended question

“I did not hesitate to vaccinate my children and most of my patients are getting the vaccine. And I recommend HPV vaccine for her – to prevent cancer and help her stay healthy. Now that we have talked about it, what do you think?”



Motivational Interviewing Summary

- Engage the patient respectfully and fully in the discussion
- The four elements of the MI spirit—empathy, collaboration, evocation, and support for autonomy
- Core MI skills like open-ended questions and reflections
- Include other strategies:
 - Presumptive style
 - Strong, bundled, and personalized recommendation
 - Social norms and focusing on the disease that is prevented

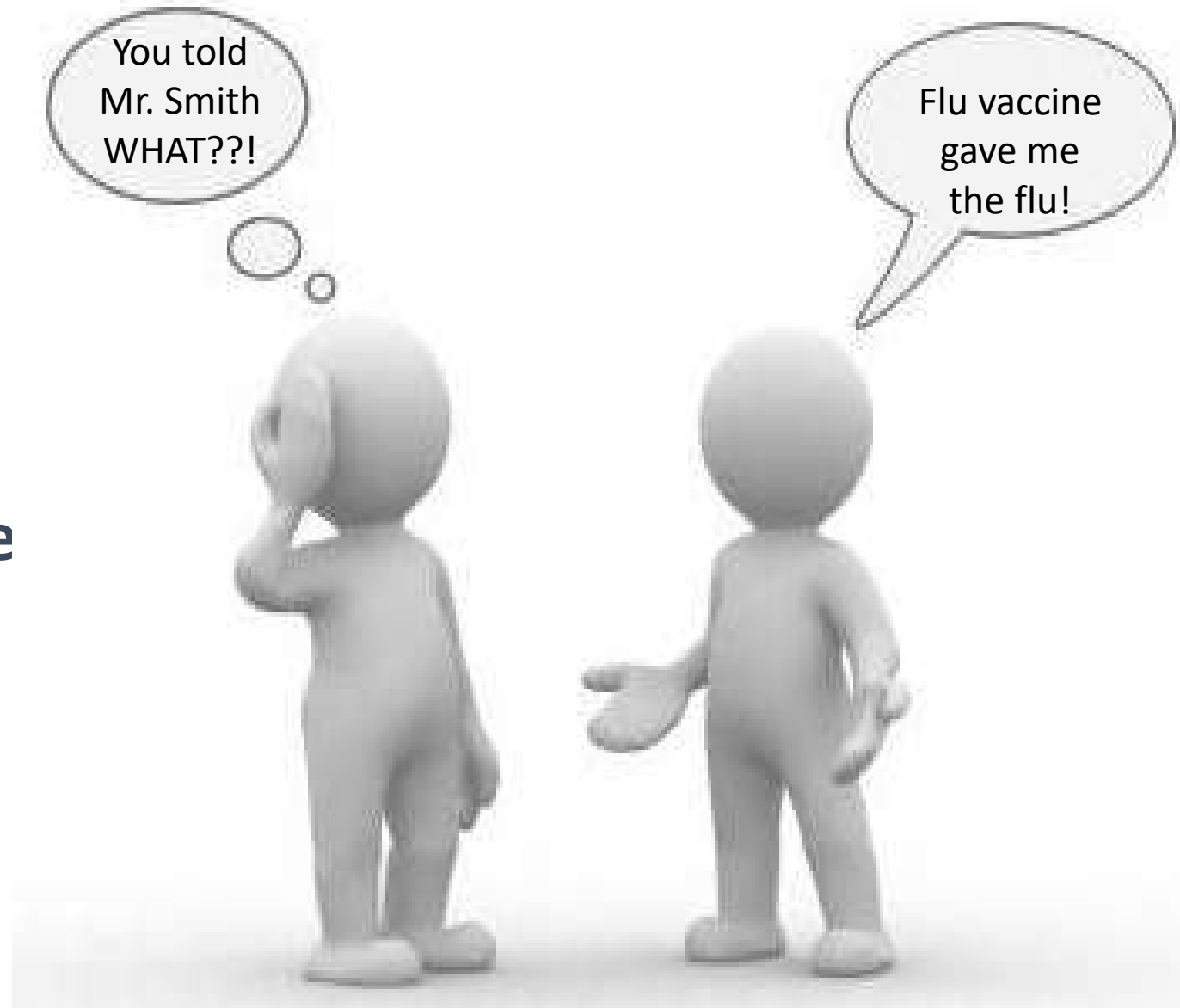
Additional Supporting Strategies

Create a Positive Vaccine Culture

- All staff have a role creating and maintaining a positive vaccine culture
- Standardize training protocols for ALL staff–
 - During orientation for new staff
 - When new vaccines or vaccine products are added to your inventory
 - When recommendations are updated

Positive Vaccine Culture

- Consistent messages from ALL staff are critical
- Use talking points to get everyone on the same page



Educate Using Vaccine Information Statements (VIS)

■ Recently updated VIS include:

- DTaP
- HepB
- MMR
- MMRV
- Rotavirus
- Varicella
- Zoster–Zostavax
- Zoster–Shingrix

The image displays two Vaccine Information Statements (VIS) side-by-side. The top VIS is for the Recombinant Zoster (Shingles) Vaccine, RZV, titled "What You Need to Know". It includes a section "1 Why get vaccinated?" explaining that shingles is caused by the varicella zoster virus and can be prevented by the vaccine. It also features an illustration of a person's torso showing the typical shingles rash pattern. The bottom VIS is for the Hepatitis B Vaccine, also titled "What You Need to Know". It includes a section "1 Why get vaccinated?" and "2 Hepatitis B vaccine", detailing the risks of hepatitis B and the benefits of the vaccine. It lists various transmission routes and risk factors, such as sexual contact, sharing needles, and household contact with someone infected. Both VIS include the CDC logo and the text "U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention".

Reminder/Recall and Vaccination Decisions

- **Reminder/recall builds on “favorable intentions” and serve as a cue to action—a vaccine is due now**
- **Reminders are for people who are due for vaccination**
 - The season has arrived- it’s time for flu vaccine
 - Can bring to mind intention to get vaccinated
- **Recall are reminders for those who are over due for vaccination**

Reminder/Recall and Vaccination Decisions

- **Multiple studies have shown reminder/recall systems improve vaccination coverage:**
 - Across all populations
 - Types of vaccinations
- **Reminder/recall notices can be:**
- **Phone message**
- **Text messages**
- **E-mails**
- **Letters**

Communication Resources

Finding Reliable Resources for HCP

- CDC Immunization Information for HCP
www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/index.html
- National Network for Immunization Information
www.immunizationinfo.org
- Nurses Who Vaccinate
www.nurseswhovaccinate.org

Reliable Sources of Immunization Information: Where Parents Can Go to Find Answers!

🌐 Websites

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
www.aap.org/immunization

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
FOR PARENTS: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents
FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS: www.cdc.gov/vaccines

Every Child by Two (ECBT)
www.vaccinateyourfamily.org
www.ecbt.org

History of Vaccines
www.historyofvaccines.org

Immunization Action Coalition (IAC)
FOR THE PUBLIC: www.vaccineinformation.org
FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS: www.immunize.org

U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services (HHS)
www.vaccines.gov

Vaccine Education Center (VEC), Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
www.vaccine.chop.edu

Voices for Vaccines (VVF)
FOR PARENTS, OTHER ADULTS, AND HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS:
www.voicesforvaccines.org

📱 Apps for Mobile Devices

Healthy Children – Parents can look up age-by-age health information for their children, check immunization schedules, and access other resources in a format designed for tablets and smartphones. A free app from the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Vaccines on the Go: What you should know – This app provides parents with reliable information about the science, safety, and importance of vaccines and the diseases they prevent. A free app from the Vaccine Education Center at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Available for Android and Apple devices.

TravWell – Use this app to build a trip to get destination-specific vaccine recommendations, a checklist of what is needed to prepare for travel and much more. A free app from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

📖 Books for Parents

Baby 411 by Denise Fields and Ari Brown, MD, Windsor Peak Press, 7th edition, 2015. Available from your favorite local or online bookstore.

Mama Doc Medicine: Finding Calm and Confidence in Parenting, Child Health, and World-Life Balance by Wendy Sue Swanson, MD (aka "Seattle Mama Doc"), 2014. Available from American Academy of Pediatrics at <http://shop.aap.org/for-parents>.

Parents Guide to Childhood Immunization from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Available at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/parents-guide/default.htm to download or order.

Vaccine-Preventable Diseases: The Forgotten Story by Texas Children's Hospital vaccine experts R. Cunningham, et al. Available at www.tchorderprocessing.com to order.

Vaccines and Your Child, Separating Fact from Fiction by Paul Offit, MD, and Charlotte Moser, Columbia University Press, 2011. Available at your favorite local or online bookstore.

📺 Videos

IAC's Video Library – Go to the Immunization Action Coalition's website for parents and the public, www.vaccineinformation.org, videos, for hundreds of video clips about vaccines and vaccine-preventable diseases.

Shot by Shot Video Collection – Go to www.shotbyshot.org to read people's stories of vaccine-preventable diseases shared on the California Immunization Coalition website.

☎ Phone Numbers

CDC-INFO Contact Center – Operated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, this number is for consumers and healthcare professionals who have questions about immunization and vaccine-preventable diseases. Call (800) CDC-INFO or (800) 232-4636. TTY: (888) 232-6348. CDC-INFO's operating hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. (ET).



Saint Paul, Minnesota • 651-647-9009 • www.immunize.org • www.vaccineinformation.org

Technical content reviewed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4012.pdf • Item #P4012 (1/17)

CDC Vaccine Communication Resources

Provider Resources for Vaccine Conversations with Parents

Conversations Home

Talking to Parents about Vaccines

Understanding Vaccines and Vaccine Safety

Vaccine-preventable Diseases

About Vaccine Conversations with Parents

Provider Resources Web Tools

Resources to Share with Parents

Get Email Updates

To receive email updates about this page, enter your email address:

Submit

Making time to talk with parents about vaccines during the well-child visit may be challenging.

Here's some help. CDC, AAP, and AAFP created these materials to help you assess parents' needs, identify the role they want to play in making decisions for their child's health, and then communicate in ways that meet their needs. These resources are collectively called *Provider Resources for Vaccine Conversations with Parents*.

For You and Your Practice

Help strengthen communication between you and parents, and get information about:

- Talking to parents about vaccines
- Understanding vaccines and vaccine safety
- Immunization schedules
- Creating a culture of immunization within your practice

To Share With Parents

Download and print these materials to help parents understand vaccine benefits and risks.

- If you choose not to vaccinate
- Vaccine-preventable disease fact sheets
- Childhood immunization schedule
- More resources

Adult Vaccination Resources

Vaccines for Adults

For Provider Practices

For Educating Patients

For Partners

Adult Vaccination Information for Healthcare and Public Health Professionals

Healthcare professionals are the most valued and trusted source of health information for adults. Research shows that most adults believe vaccines are important and that a recommendation from their healthcare professional is the strongest predictor of adults getting vaccinated. CDC is committed to working with healthcare professionals to improve adult vaccination rates and reduce the number of missed opportunities for vaccinations.

Spotlight

- Adult Immunization Schedules, 2015
- MMWR: Vaccination Coverage Among Adults – U.S., 2014
- HHS releases National Adult Immunization Plan

Related Links

Vaccines & Immunizations

Adult Immunization Schedule

ACIP vaccine recommendations

Vaccine Information for Adult Patients

For Provider Practices

Information and tools to help you and your practice stay up-to-date on vaccination standards and practices.

- Current Immunization Schedules
- Standards for Adult Immunization Practice
- Strategies for Increasing Adult Vaccination Rates
- Resources for Insurance and Payment
- Travel Vaccine Recommendations
- NFID Adult Immunization Resources

For Educating Patients

Resources to help you educate your adult patients about vaccination.

- Resources for:
 - All Adults
 - Older Adults
 - Adults with Chronic Conditions
 - Pregnant Women
 - Travelers
 - Healthcare workers
 - Spanish Speakers
 - Disease-specific resources

Provider Resources for Vaccine Conversations with Parents Provider Resources for Vaccine Conversations with Adults

Provider Resources for Vaccine Conversations with Parents www.cdc.gov/vaccines/conversations

Provider Resources for Vaccine Conversations with Adults www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/adults/index.html

Other Immunization Resources for Providers

- **Immunization Action Coalition**
 - Responding to Concerns section
 - Talking with Parents section

www.immunize.org

- **Vaccine Education Center**

www.vaccine.chop.edu

- **National Foundation for Infectious Diseases**

www.nfid.org

- **American Academy of Pediatrics**

www.aap.org/immunizations



Finding Reliable Resources for Patients and Parents

■ Immunization Action Coalition

www.vaccineinformation.org

■ Voices for Vaccines

www.voicesforvaccines.org

■ Families Fighting Flu

www.familiesfightingflu.org

Reliable Sources of Immunization Information: Where Parents Can Go to Find Answers!

🌐 Websites

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
www.aap.org/immunization

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
FOR PARENTS: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents
FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS: www.cdc.gov/vaccines

Every Child by Two (ECBT)
www.vaccinateyourfamily.org
www.ecbt.org

History of Vaccines
www.historyofvaccines.org

Immunization Action Coalition (IAC)
FOR THE PUBLIC: www.vaccineinformation.org
FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS: www.immunize.org

U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services (HHS)
www.vaccines.gov

Vaccine Education Center (VEC), Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
www.vaccine.chop.edu

Voices for Vaccines (VVF)
FOR PARENTS, OTHER ADULTS, AND HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS:
www.voicesforvaccines.org

📱 Apps for Mobile Devices

Healthy Children – Parents can look up age-by-age health information for their children, check immunization schedules, and access other resources in a format designed for tablets and smartphones. A free app from the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Vaccines on the Go: What you should know – This app provides parents with reliable information about the science, safety, and importance of vaccines and the diseases they prevent. A free app from the Vaccine Education Center at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Available for Android and Apple devices.

TravWell – Use this app to build a trip to get destination-specific vaccine recommendations, a checklist of what is needed to prepare for travel and much more. A free app from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

📖 Books for Parents

Baby 411 by Denise Fields and Ari Brown, MD, Windsor Peak Press, 7th edition, 2015. Available from your favorite local or online bookstore.

Mama Doc Medicine: Finding Calm and Confidence in Parenting, Child Health, and World-Life Balance by Wendy Sue Swanson, MD (aka "Seattle Mama Doc"), 2014. Available from American Academy of Pediatrics at <http://shop.aap.org/for-parents>.

Parents Guide to Childhood Immunization from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Available at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/parents-guide/default.htm to download or order.

Vaccine-Preventable Diseases: The Forgotten Story by Texas Children's Hospital vaccine experts R. Cunningham, et al. Available at www.tchorderprocessing.com to order.

Vaccines and Your Child, Separating Fact from Fiction by Paul Offit, MD, and Charlotte Moser, Columbia University Press, 2011. Available at your favorite local or online bookstore.

📺 Videos

IAC's Video Library – Go to the Immunization Action Coalition's website for parents and the public, www.vaccineinformation.org, videos, for hundreds of video clips about vaccines and vaccine-preventable diseases.

Shot by Shot Video Collection – Go to www.shotbysot.org to read people's stories of vaccine-preventable diseases shared on the California Immunization Coalition website.

☎ Phone Numbers

CDC-INFO Contact Center – Operated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, this number is for consumers and healthcare professionals who have questions about immunization and vaccine-preventable diseases. Call (800) CDC-INFO or (800) 232-4636. TTY: (888) 232-6348. CDC-INFO's operating hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. (ET).



Saint Paul, Minnesota • 651-647-9009 • www.immunize.org • www.vaccineinformation.org

Technical content reviewed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4012.pdf • Item #P4012 (1/17)

Immunization Resources for Parents

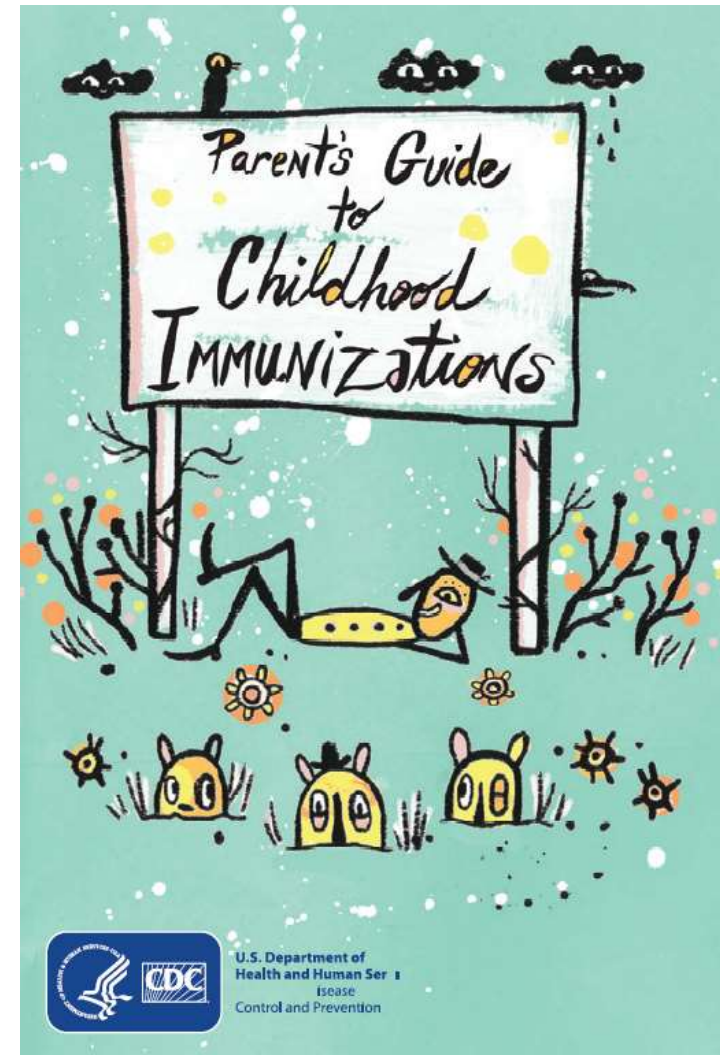
- CDC's Parents Guide to Childhood Immunization

www.cdc.gov/pubs/parents-guide

- Every Child By Two

www.ecbt.org and

www.vaccinateyourbaby.org

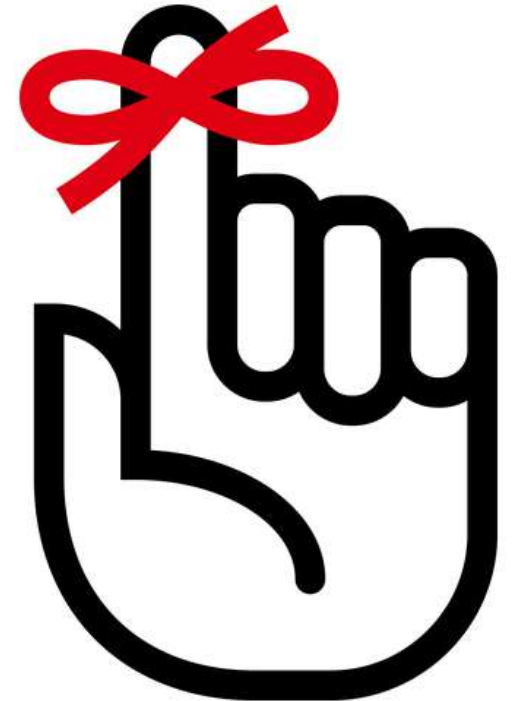


Additional CDC Immunization Resources

- Questions? E-mail CDC
nipinfo@cdc.gov or www.cdc.gov/cdcinfo
- Vaccines and Immunizations website www.cdc.gov/vaccines
- Influenza www.cdc.gov/flu
- Vaccine Safety www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety

Remember...

- Create and maintain a vaccine positive culture
- Be mindful of the structure of the conversation
 - Avoid conversational “traps”
- Start conversations using a presumptive style
- Give a strong, bundled recommendation
- Cite social norms
- Implement a reminder/recall system





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