

IMMUNIZATION SERVICE ASSESSMENT

How Well is Your Practice Doing?

Listed below are steps you can take to improve your practice's delivery of immunization services. Check the response that best corresponds to the current status in your work setting, then tally your total to see where you stand.

	Yes	Partly	No
1. In all exam rooms, we post the current, official U.S. immunization schedule (available at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/schedules/adult-schedule.htm).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Our staff is familiar with special vaccination recommendations for high-risk patients (e.g., special groups who need hepatitis A, hepatitis B, pneumococcal, or influenza vaccines).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. When scheduling appointments, we remind patients to bring along their personal immunization record (available in the Shopping Bag at www.ohiokepro.com).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Our nursing and office staff (e.g., receptionist, scheduler) have received training on how to determine valid and invalid contraindications to vaccinations, as well as the minimum intervals permissible between vaccinations. We strive to miss no opportunity to vaccinate when appropriate.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Our nurses can independently screen patients and administer vaccines under standing orders (available at www.ohiokepro.com/oipha).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. We maintain a comprehensive immunization record in a visible location in each patient's chart (e.g., the front of the chart).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Prior to patient visits, we review the immunization record for each patient and flag charts of those who are due or overdue for immunizations.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. Patients can walk in during office hours for a "nurse only" visit and get vaccinated.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. We use all patient encounters to assess and provide vaccinations.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. Whenever a patient comes in, the staff routinely reviews the patient's immunization record to determine if he/she received vaccinations elsewhere.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11. Before the clinician sees the patient, a staff member completes an immunization assessment and gives a Vaccine Information Statement (VIS, available at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/default.htm) to the patient to read.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12. With each patient visit, we document on the patient's chart that their immunization status has been reviewed (e.g., a notation such as "immunization status reviewed" is pre-printed on the progress note or other chart form).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13. We always update the patient's personal immunization record card each time we administer vaccinations. If the patient doesn't have a card, we give them one (available in the Shopping Bag at www.ohiokepro.com) that contains their vaccination history.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
14. If we have written confirmation that a patient received vaccines at another site or at a public health, school-based, worksite-based, or community-based immunization site, we update the patient's medical chart with that information, recording the date(s) and healthcare site(s) where the vaccination was received.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
15. We routinely assess immunization levels of our patient population, including those with high-risk indicators. We share this information with all our staff and use it to develop strategies to improve immunization rates.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

YOUR SCORE: (0 points for "No" answers, 1 point for "Partly" answers, and 2 points for "Yes" answers.)

30 points: Outstanding Immunization Services - Congratulations on developing successful strategies for improving preventive immunizations to your patients! These strategies can be applied to other quality improvements. Keep up the great work!

25-29 points: Strong Immunization Services - Your practice has many great strategies in place, but there is still some room for improvement. Visit the Web sites listed below for additional resources to improve your performance.

16-24 points: Working Toward Optimizing Services - Your practice has some good strategies in place, but could benefit from further enhancement of immunization services. Visit the Web sites below for additional resources.

0-15 points: Opportunity for Improvement - It can be a challenge to meet the many demands of your practice, but be sure to make immunization services a priority. Visit the Web sites below, or contact your Ohio KePRO quality improvement specialist at prevention@ohqio.sdps.org for successful strategies for implementing new processes.

For more information about how you can improve immunization services at your practice, visit:

- CDC - Immunizations (www.cdc.gov/vaccines)
- Ohio KePRO (www.ohiokepro.com)
- Ohio Immunization Partners for Healthy Adults (www.ohiokepro.com/oipha)
- Immunization Action Coalition (www.immunize.org)
- CMS - Immunizations (www.cms.hhs.gov/AdultImmunizations)

Adapted from: Immunization Action Coalition. Suggestions to Improve Your Immunization Services. Available at: www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2045.pdf. Accessed April 22, 2009.