Parent Knowledge about Their Teen’s Vaccination Status and Additional Doses Needed
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Background:
Immunization coverage rates are variable across vaccines recommended during adolescence. It is unknown whether low rates are due to lack of parental knowledge about doses due, rather than vaccine refusal.

Objectives:
To explore parental knowledge around adolescent vaccination status and doses due.

Methods:
Data were collected in January 2017 in conjunction with the CS Mott Children’s Hospital National Poll on Children’s Health, using the KnowledgePanel® (GfK, LLC), a national panel of US households drawn via address-based probability sampling. The survey included multiple health-related topics; respondents were not told the nature of the topics. Census-based weights were applied to adjust for the probability of selection and non-response. Survey response rate was 61%; 614 parents with a child age 13-17 answered questions about vaccines.

Results:
Most parents reported their teen definitely (79%) or probably (14%) has gotten all vaccines recommended for his or her age. With regard to when their teen is due for another vaccine dose, 19% said within the next year, 26% in more than a year, 36% were unsure, and 19% said their teen does not need any more vaccines. There was no difference by parent education, race or income. Parents indicated they know when their teen is due for another vaccine because the doctor’s office schedules an appointment for vaccination (44%), the doctor or nurse mentions vaccination during a visit (40%), and/or the doctor’s office sends a reminder that a vaccine was due (11%). Only 11% receive a reminder from their teen’s school or health plan; 10% aren’t sure how they would know when a vaccine is due.

Conclusion:
Many parents overestimate their teens’ vaccination status, and do not know their teen is due for additional vaccines. Health care providers are viewed as the main source of information about additional doses, even though teens are infrequent health care utilizers.
Addressing Influenza Vaccination in the Collegiate Population
Lisa Ipp, Marla Dalton, Joanna Colbourne, Kelli Raymor

**Background:**
On U.S. college campuses, flu vaccination rates remain strikingly low, hovering between 8-39%, and falling short of the 70% Healthy People 2020 and 50% ACHA Healthy Campus 2020 target goals.

College students are at particularly high risk of getting and spreading the flu because of constant exposure to high-touch areas like common living spaces and classrooms, and social activities.

**Objectives:**
1. Increase understanding of key barriers and motivators behind flu vaccination among college-aged students
2. Collected data will be used for content development and information sharing with college based health stakeholders to increase uptake of flu vaccine

**Methods:**
The survey was conducted online by Harris Poll between October 12 and 31, 2017 among 1,005 U.S. college students, ages 18-24 who are currently attending a 2 or 4 year college or university. Figures for age by gender, race/ethnicity, region, household income, household size, and enrollment status were weighted where necessary to bring them into line with their actual proportions in the population.

**Results:**
Among students who do not typically receive the flu vaccination, 36% say that they are healthy and don’t need it; 31% say they don’t like needles and 30% say they don’t think it works. Additionally, 59% think that the flu vaccine can cause the flu, and 59% don’t think it’s likely they’ll get the flu in the next year.

Significantly increasing college students’ likelihood of getting vaccinated are access to the vaccine at low or no cost (61%) and vaccine availability in multiple campus locations (48%). Also, monetary incentives (61%), free food (31%) and a big campus event with free food/music (26%).

**Conclusion:**
These results regarding flu barriers, misconceptions and motivators are novel, and will help drive improvements in college flu immunization efforts. We plan to work with academic, health, advocacy, and student leaders to share these insights and uncover additional best practices.
Perspectives on Adolescent Health and Immunization: A National Survey of Teens, Parents and Healthcare Providers
Judy Klein

Background:
Gaps in US adolescent immunization rates continue to exist for several routinely recommended vaccines and millions of teens remain susceptible to vaccine-preventable diseases. Unity Consortium, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving adolescent health, sought to understand the perspectives from teens, parents and healthcare providers on adolescent health, including preventive healthcare and immunization.

Objectives:
Gain a better understanding of parents', teens' and healthcare providers' views on adolescent health, preventive healthcare, and immunization
Gather data to educate and align parents, teens, and healthcare providers around the importance of immunization to lifelong health

Methods:
An online Harris Poll was completed in October 2016 among 506 teens ages 13-18, 515 parents with a child aged 13-18, 405 primary care physicians and 105 pharmacists.

Results:
Many parents and teens lack understanding about the importance of preventive health measures like well visits and immunization.

41% of parents and 58% of teens believe teens should only see a doctor when sick
34% of teens don't know how vaccinations help them
23% of parents and teens believe that vaccines are for babies and not as important for teens

Lifestyle behaviors (i.e., staying safe from STDs and avoiding drugs/alcohol) are considered extremely/very important by a greater number of teens than more clinical aspects of healthcare (i.e., seeing a doctor and getting recommended vaccines).

57% of parents and teens have some safety concerns about vaccines, and 45% of parents/47% of teens have concerns based on what they’ve read on social media.

Conclusion:
Our findings underscore the need for ongoing communication with parents and adolescents about the importance of preventive healthcare and immunization. We encourage health care providers to set up reminder systems, especially at 11-12 and 16 years of age, and processes to remind parents if vaccines are missed.