Session K1

0094_0174_000159
Improving Adult Immunization Rates and Registry Reporting through Healthcare Collaborations
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Summary of Topic:
The National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) and their three sub-awardees aimed to increase adult immunization rates and pharmacy reporting to state registries by aligning the interests of healthcare partners and exploring payment models. NACDS received an award from the CDC (Federal Award Identification Number IH23IP000985) for this initiative.

Description of Session:
NACDS collaborated with 1) the University of Pittsburgh; (2) the University of Nebraska Medical Center; and (3) the University of Washington, and their respective pharmacy, public health, and payor partners to improve adult immunization rates and reporting in more than 325 pharmacies across four states.

The sub-awardees’ demonstration projects sought to develop replicable and scalable payment models that incentivize community pharmacies and other healthcare stakeholders to increase adult immunization rates and related immunization reporting to state-based registries for influenza, pneumococcal, pertussis, and herpes zoster vaccine. The sub-awardees also collaborated with public health partners, including state health departments, to increase pandemic planning coordination with pharmacies.

While each sub-awardee shared the same aims to improve adult immunization rates, reporting, and pandemic preparedness, each developed unique, innovative strategies in terms of patient engagement, technology solutions, and payor/healthcare collaboration.

The University of Pittsburgh, partnering with a regional grocery store chain with 99 locations in Pennsylvania, developed innovative, patient-centric technology solutions including: a 2D barcode smartphone vaccination app, computer algorithms utilizing dispensing data to identify eligible patients, and telephonic interventions to eligible patients.

The University of Nebraska Medical Center, partnering with a regional grocery chain in Iowa and Nebraska and two accountable care organizations, utilized a technology platform across all 159 participating pharmacies to provide personalized on-screen recommendations for a patient’s full immunization needs, following their request for a seasonal influenza vaccination. Both Iowa’s and Nebraska’s state registries received data on these immunizations provided.

The University of Washington, partnering with a traditional pharmacy chain and a supermarket chain for a total of 70 locations to improve immunization care through training, workflow realignment and forecasting, piloted a tier-based incentive payment model in 12 demonstration pharmacies designed using stakeholder input and pharmacy data.

During this presentation, NACDS and the project lead from each demonstration site will discuss lessons learned and replicable innovations that could be adopted beyond the confines of this grant.
Funding declaration: Funding for this conference presentation was made possible (in part) by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The views expressed in written conference materials or publications and by speakers and moderators do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services, nor does the mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

The demonstration projects and related RFP are supported by Grant Federal Award Identification Number, IH23IP000985, for $800,000 funded by the CDC. The content of the presentation is solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the CDC or the Department of Health and Human Services. NACDS contributed an additional $300,000 to execute the demonstration projects. Given this contribution, each sub-awardee received approximately 67 percent ($200,000) of its funding from the CDC and approximately 33 percent ($100,000) from NACDS to implement its demonstration project. A total of $1.1 million will be used to complete CDC project work, with 73 percent from the CDC and 27 percent from NACDS.