



# Immunization Updates for Long-Term Care

Jennifer Brown

Quality Improvement Specialist/Infection Preventionist



Quality  
Insights

QIN-QIO

Quality Innovation Network -  
Quality Improvement Organizations  
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES  
IQALITY IMPROVEMENT & INNOVATION GROUP

# Overview

- Information about the influenza, pneumococcal, COVID-19, and RSV vaccines
- Strategies for addressing common concerns and myths surrounding vaccination
- Strategies to increase vaccine acceptance among both residents and staff
- Principles of vaccine administration and safety

# Vaccination in Nursing Homes

- Importance of vaccines in vulnerable populations
  - Age
  - Immunocompromised residents
  - Underlying health conditions
  - Close interactions with both residents and staff

# Benefits of Vaccination for Residents & Staff

- Preventing disease
- Preventing complications from disease
- Preventing workplace outbreaks
- Improving quality of life

# Immunization Overview

- Influenza
- Pneumococcal
- COVID-19
- Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)

# Influenza Vaccination

- The unique role of healthcare professionals in preventing the spread of influenza

# Pneumococcal Vaccination

- Available pneumococcal vaccines

## Pneumococcal Vaccine Timing for Adults

Make sure your patients are up to date with pneumococcal vaccination.

### Adults ≥65 years old

#### Complete pneumococcal vaccine schedules

Prior vaccines	Option A	Option B
None*	PCV20	PCV15 → ≥1 year† → PPSV23
PPSV23 only at any age	→ ≥1 year → PCV20	→ ≥1 year → PCV15
PCV13 only at any age	→ ≥1 year → PCV20	→ ≥1 year† → PPSV23
PCV13 at any age & PPSV23 at <65 yrs	→ ≥5 years → PCV20	→ ≥5 years‡ → PPSV23

\* Also applies to people who received PCV7 at any age and no other pneumococcal vaccines

† Consider minimum interval (8 weeks) for adults with an immunocompromising condition, cochlear implant, or cerebrospinal fluid leak (CSF) leak

‡ For adults with an immunocompromising condition, cochlear implant, or CSF leak, the minimum interval for PPSV23 is ≥8 weeks since last PCV13 dose and ≥5 years since last PPSV23 dose; for others, the minimum interval for PPSV23 is ≥1 year since last PCV13 dose and ≥5 years since last PPSV23 dose

#### Shared clinical decision-making for those who already completed the series with PCV13 and PPSV23

Prior vaccines	Shared clinical decision-making option
Complete series: PCV13 at any age & PPSV23 at ≥65 yrs	→ ≥5 years → PCV20 Together, with the patient, vaccine providers <b>may choose</b> to administer PCV20 to adults ≥65 years old who have already received PCV13 (but not PCV15 or PCV20) at any age and PPSV23 at or after the age of 65 years old.

[www.cdc.gov/pneumococcal/vaccination.html](http://www.cdc.gov/pneumococcal/vaccination.html)



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



# COVID-19 Vaccinations

- Efficacy and safety data
- New booster approval
- Variants of concern and their implications
  - BA.2.86 variant
- Evolving guidelines for healthcare professionals



# COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations

- You are up to date when you get 1 updated Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.

# RSV Vaccination

- RSV and its impact on the elderly population
- RSV vaccine recommendation
- Availability of vaccines

# Addressing Common Concerns and Myths

---

# Identifying Common Vaccine Hesitancy Issues

Common concerns and myths that may lead to vaccine hesitancy:

- Safety concerns
- Misperceptions about vaccine ingredients
- Natural immunity vs. vaccination
- Vaccine effectiveness
- Perceived lack of risk
- Religious or philosophical beliefs
- Concerns about overvaccination

# Building Vaccine Confidence

- Use active listening
- Have empathy and respect
- Provide accurate information
- Use visual aids
- Share personal experiences

# Assessing Residents' Unique Concerns

- It is important to understand residents' specific concerns and fears about vaccination.

# Importance of Trust in Healthcare Providers

- Building trust between residents and healthcare providers can positively impact vaccine acceptance.

# Engaging Families and Caregivers

- Involving families and caregivers can influence residents' vaccine decisions.



# Encouraging Resident Participation

- Encourage residents to have an active role in the decision-making process.

# Strategies for Increasing Acceptance Among Staff

- Tailored communication
- Peer influence
- Continuing education

# Identifying and Addressing Staff Concerns

- Strategies to identify and address the concerns of staff members who may be hesitant about vaccination

# Staff Engagement and Communication

- Effective communication and engagement with staff regarding vaccination

# Ensuring Ease of Access to Vaccination

- Strategies for making vaccination as convenient and accessible as possible for staff

# Encouraging Vaccination as a Team

- The importance of teamwork and collective responsibility in promoting staff vaccination
- Normalizing annual vaccinations

# Vaccine Clinics, Vaccine Administration, and Safety

---

# Implementing On-Site Vaccination Clinics

- Benefits of on-site vaccination clinics for residents and staff:
  - Convenience
  - Increased vaccine coverage
  - Timely vaccinations
  - Minimized barriers
  - Increased trust
  - Data collection
  - Resident and staff wellness



# Vaccine Administration in Nursing Homes

- Ensure staff is trained on vaccine administration:
  - Intramuscular injection competency
  - Vaccine storage and handling
  - Sharps disposal

# Ensuring Safety and Minimizing Adverse Events

- Strategies for ensuring the safety of vaccine administration and minimizing the risk of adverse events

# Role of Vaccine Documentation

- The importance of accurate vaccine documentation
  - Tracking
  - Safety monitoring

# Regulatory Compliance and Reporting

- Consents
- Vaccine Information Statements (VISs)
- Vaccine Documentation
- Electronic Health Record
- State Reporting

# State and Local Resources

## Pennsylvania

- PA Department of Health: Adult Immunizations Page
  - <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/programs/immunizations/Pages/Adult.aspx>
- Pennsylvania Statewide Immunization Information System (PA-SIIS)
  - <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/Reporting-Registries/PA-SIIS/Pages/PA-SIIS.aspx>

## West Virginia

- West Virginia Division of Immunization Services
  - <https://oeps.wv.gov/immunizations/Pages/default.aspx>
- West Virginia Statewide Immunization Information System (WVSIIS)
  - <https://www.wvimm.org/wvsiis/>

# Resources and educational campaigns related to vaccination

- Quality Insights
  - <https://www.qualityinsights.org/qin/resources>
- Immunize.org
  - <https://www.immunize.org/>
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/index.html>
- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)
  - <https://www.ahrq.gov/nursing-home/materials/prevention/vaccine-trust.html>

# Questions?

---

# Thank You for Joining Us!

## Contact:

Jennifer Brown, BSN, RN

- Infection Preventionist
- [jbrown@qualityinsights.org](mailto:jbrown@qualityinsights.org)

## Find us online:

[qualityinsights.org/qin](http://qualityinsights.org/qin)



Quality  
Insights

QIN-QIO

Quality Innovation Network -

Quality Improvement Organizations

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

iQUALITY IMPROVEMENT & INNOVATION GROUP