



PROGRAM PRACTICES
SUBMISSION FORM

IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM PRACTICES INFORMATION

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Program: Rhode Island Department of Health, Office of Immunization

Does AIM have permission to share this information on the publicly accessible AIM website? All materials submitted will be posted on the AIM website. Yes No

BULL'S-EYE AWARD

The Bulls-Eye Award for Innovation and Excellence in Immunization recognizes immunization strategies that "hit their mark" and achieve immunization goals with special consideration for practices that are innovative and easily replicated. Each year, AIM awards three programs the Bull's-Eye Award. Only those practices with activities that are currently ongoing or concluded during 2016 (including implementation, follow-up, and/or evaluation activities) will be considered for the award.

Would you like for this submission to be considered for the 2017 AIM Bull's- Eye Award? Yes No

PROGRAM PRACTICE INFORMATION

Title

VFC Site Visits in the Hospital Setting

Keywords (up to 5 main terms/phrases that describe the practice)

Hospital, VFC, Site Visit, Storage, Handling, transportation, Emergency Plan

Is this practice Evidence / Guideline Based? (if yes, please include reference below) Yes No

Reference: CDC OPTS Guide, Policies and Procedures

Background (scope of the immunization need or problem)

In addition to hospital pharmacist ordering vaccines for many areas of the hospital, including newborn nurseries, maternity, pediatric and adult inpatient, they are the emergency storage location for many private practices. Reviewing vaccine storage, handling, administration, and ordering with the pharmacist having an emphasis on receiving and storing vaccines for provider offices, is an important and necessary aspect of maintaining the cold chain of vaccines.

All hospital units, newborn nursery, maternity etc. have separate storage units for the vaccines that they use. Proper understanding of vaccine storage and administration is crucial to maintain vaccine viability.

Program Practice Description

Describe the practice goals and objectives.

- 1) Maintaining a partnership with the hospitals that will work toward ensuring all newborns, new parents and other hospital in-patients are vaccinated.
- 2) Ensuring that all RI patients receive viable vaccine

What were the main implementation activities?

Schedule a VFC site visit with the lead pharmacist and nurse managers on the pediatric, nursery, and adult patient units so that you have the time allotted to discuss and review information and materials that pertain to each of the hospital units (i.e. the pharmacist will need updated information for vaccine ordering, storage, handling, transportation, and receiving vaccines for emergency storage). Hospital units will need updated information on policies, and procedures regarding vaccine storage, handling and administration.

Where and when did the practice take place?

Visits are conducted at all VFC Rhode Island hospitals yearly

How much staff time was involved?

The visit takes a significant amount of time because you are visiting the pharmacy and each of the hospital units that store vaccines.

What were the costs associated with the activity? What was the funding source?

VFC Funding

Identify the target population that the practice affected.

Pharmacist, clinician, unit charge nurses directly, new parents, hospital-inpatients, families, and newborns indirectly.

If partners were involved, include who was involved, and how.

Pharmacist, vaccine contacts, charge nurses

Timeframe of Implementation (Start and Stop Dates)

On-going

Evaluation Data: Was the implementation and/or effectiveness of this practice assessed? (if "yes" or "limited," provide any data that is available) _X_Yes _No _Limited

Data: Private practices that utilize the hospital pharmacy for emergency storage report that the pharmacy staff are ensuring that all vaccine are packed, transported and transferred with all protocols in place and followed to ensure that the vaccine cold chain was not compromised.

Conclusions / Lessons Learned / Key Factors for Success

Having a consistent presence in the hospital setting, whether it be with the pharmacy or other hospital units, allows us to assess training needs to ensure that all policies and procedures are followed

Check if any of the following are being submitted to complement your submission:

(All materials will be posted on the AIM website)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Testimonials | <input type="checkbox"/> Project photo(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quote from partner/participant | <input type="checkbox"/> Publication (e.g., news story, journal article) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sample of materials produced | <input type="checkbox"/> Video/audio clip |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Press release | <input type="checkbox"/> Website URL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Promotional materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Tables or graphs |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other — Explain: _____ |

****Email the completed form to Mary Waterman (mwaterman@immunizationmanagers.org) with the subject line "Program Practices Submission."**



Coastal Medical Bald Hill Pediatrics Vaccine Emergency Storage Protocol

Once a year, Bald Hill Pediatrics outreaches to Kent County Memorial Hospital to verify refrigerator/freezer space in the pharmacy department during inclement weather/electricity outage to hold Bald Hill Pediatrics entire vaccine inventory.

Process

- Bald Hill Pediatrics calls KCMH to notify the pharmacy department the need to store vaccine in their space.
- Bald Hill Pediatrics packs all vaccines into coolers following the cold chain
- Upon arrival at KCMH, the pharmacy staff counts every vaccine, labels the vaccines with the practice name and stores appropriately in refrigerator/freezer
- After electricity is restored and temperatures are at the appropriate temperature, Bald Hill notifies KCMH of the pick- up time.
- KCMH staff reconfirms proper vaccine count before releasing vaccine
- KCMH will not accept vaccine if it is not properly stored in coolers upon delivery

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June 10, 2016

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To Whom It May Concern,

As the Pharmacy Manager for Newport Hospital, a small community hospital in the Lifespan healthcare system, I have found the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) Immunization program site visits to be informative and helpful to maintaining a vaccine storage and dispensing location that is compliant with CDC recommendations.

The visits from Heidi Wallace, our Immunization Quality Assurance Specialist, are an excellent opportunity to share pertinent information and keep the lines of communication open between my site and RIDOH. I am provided with the latest dosing guidelines, VIS forms, and availability of state-supplied vaccines (SSVs). Heidi reviews the storage and handling requirements, ensuring that expectations are clear, with particular regard to the challenges presented by private practices wishing to deliver vaccines to the hospital for emergency storage. We review our disaster plan and temperature monitoring procedures, addressing any concerns in real time. I also find it beneficial at the time of the visit to review the computerized ordering and inventory tracking system with Heidi and my vaccine site coordinator.

In summary, the site visits are a valuable component of the Immunization Program that encourage collaboration and assure RIDOH that SSVs are stored and handled appropriately.

Sincerely,

Paul W. Parchesky, RPh
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