An Opportunity to Improve Adult Immunization Rates

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QUICK FACTS

- 2009: Pharmacists authorized to administer influenza vaccines without a prescription.
  All other vaccines require a prescription
- HB 504: Effective July 1, 2015
  Allows pharmacists to administer (in addition to influenza) vaccines for the following vaccine preventable disease without a prescription
  ✓ Meningococcal
  ✓ Pneumococcal
  ✓ Herpes Zoster
- Requirements:
  Pharmacists must be in a protocol agreement with the physician
  Patients 18 years or older only
QUICK FACTS

• Private insurance plans, Medicaid and Medicare cover adult vaccinations

• 93% of Georgians live within 5 miles of a community pharmacy

• Six Georgia counties don’t have a family physician according to the Board for Physician Workforce

• According to the CDC, the four diseases pharmacists can now provide immunizations cost Georgians more than half a billion dollars in 2010 in lost income and revenue
REQUIREMENTS

• Training

• Protocol Agreement

• Establish best practices with patient interaction

• Documentation
GET THE RIGHT TRAINING

• CDC-recommended 20-hour training
  ✓ 12 hours self study and assessment
  ✓ 8 hours of live seminar instruction with final exam
  ✓ Hands on assessment of technique

• American Pharmacist Association’s certification program
FOLLOW PROTOCOL

• Vaccine Protocol Agreement
  Document prescribing vaccines and epinephrine, if determined appropriate by physician for administration by a pharmacist

• Protocol must be posted in a conspicuous location and include a list of the vaccines authorized by protocol
FOLLOW PROTOCOL

• Signed and notarized affidavit to physician is required including the following elements

  ✓ Confirm liability insurance coverage has been obtained
  ✓ Attest pharmacist holds current CPR/BLS certification
  ✓ Completion of training requirements
  ✓ Confirm pharmacist has a copy of the vaccine protocol agreement and agrees to comply
  ✓ Identify location(s) where vaccines will be administered
PATIENT INTERACTION

• Complete patient case history

• Determine if patient has had a physical exam within the past year

• Identify if the patient has any contraindications/precautions to receiving vaccines

• Administration of vaccine(s) in private area
PATIENT INTERACTION

• Provide the patient written information, developed by DPH on importance of having a primary care physician

• Provide the patient a vaccine administration record card indicating date of vaccine administration, dosage, and pharmacist’s contact info
• Required documentation for pharmacists to retain Vaccine Administration Record Forms
  ✓ Recipient acknowledges the receipt of the Vaccine Information Statement
  ✓ Recipient consents to the administration
  ✓ Recipient authorizes the pharmacy to notify the primary care provider of the vaccine administered
Administering pharmacists information
Vaccine information
  Name, lot number, expiration date
Date of administration and injection site
Adverse events or complications
• Enter vaccine information into Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and Services (GRITS)

• Notify primary care physician within 72 hours

• Document attempts to notify primary care physician

NOTE: There are fines for knowing noncompliance, administered by Georgia Drugs and Narcotics (GDNA)
Mission
The mission of the Georgia Pharmacy Association shall be to promote and enhance the profession of pharmacy and the practice standards of its practitioners. Further, the Association shall endeavor to heighten the public’s perception of the profession of pharmacy and pharmacists, and to promote the value of pharmacy services to the health and welfare of the general public.

Opportunity
Let’s work together with the goal to improve Georgia adult immunization rates