Childhood and Adolescent Vaccination Update

Amy Herrington, DNP, RN, CEN, CNE

09/15/21
For doses administered to 0-18-year-olds, we are still below rates from 2019. However, we are currently doing better than 2020.

All data reflected is per the Kentucky Immunization Registry (KYIR).
There was a huge increase in April from last year, and some moderate increases through June-August. This is mainly because April 2020 was one of our hardest hit lowest vaccination months due to the pandemic. The example above is DtaP, TD, and Tdap.

All data reflected is per the Kentucky Immunization Registry (KYIR).
Where we are struggling the most to get back on track is with 7-18-year-olds.

All data reflected is per the Kentucky Immunization Registry (KYIR).
The good news is that the National Immunization Survey (NIS) data shows that we have increased in certain categories like HPV vaccination. This is significant since we are one of the lowest HPV vaccinated states and have one of the highest HPV-related cancer case rates.

Source: About the National Immunization Surveys | CDC
Kentucky COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard
COVID-19 Vaccination

- Pfizer vaccine can administered to children 12 and older
- COVID-19 vaccines may now be administered without regard to timing of other vaccines.
  - Simultaneous administration of COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines on the same day,
  - Co-administration within 14 days
Reminder: Flu season starts in October. The best time to get vaccinated for this flu season is September-October.

CDC Digital Media Toolkit: 2020-21 Flu Season | CDC

Flu data from FluVax showing a steady increase of vaccination.

Source: Flu Vaccination Coverage, United States, 2019–20 Influenza Season | FluVaxView | Seasonal Influenza (Flu) | CDC
Use Patient-Centered Communication Techniques

- **Use open-ended questions** to promote dialogue. Ask about readiness to vaccinate and what questions or concerns they may have.

- **Paraphrase** any information shared to show that you have heard and understood it.

- **Praise measures already taken** to protect themselves or their children from COVID-19, like mask wearing and physical distancing. Then **frame** vaccination as a safe and effective way to help protect them and their loved ones from getting COVID-19.

- **Ask for permission** to share more information on COVID-19 vaccines. This will foster openness and connection.
Respond to Questions and Concerns with Empathy

- **Respond to questions** and concerns in a non-judgmental, respectful, and empathic way.

- **Provide accurate answers** using clear, simple language. Explore questions patients ask most often about vaccines (see URLs below).

- Some concerns may stem from mistrust in the medical establishment or the government as result of collective or individual mistreatment and traumas. **Acknowledging past traumas** may promote patients’ trust in you and your message.

- **Acknowledge uncertainty** about what we don’t yet know about COVID-19 vaccines. This can help build trust.

www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/hcp/answering-questions.html
Give Your Strong Recommendation

- **Talk about your personal decision** and experience in getting a COVID-19 vaccine and your experience treating COVID-19 patients.

- **Share the benefits** of getting vaccinated, including:
  - Protecting themselves and others who may be more vulnerable, and
  - Enabling them to get back to activities they have missed.
    - Explain what they can do when they’ve been fully vaccinated.
Resources for Talking with Patients about COVID-19 Vaccination

- Where to find a COVID-19 vaccine: https://www.vaccines.gov/
- Talking with patients about COVID-19 vaccines: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/covid-conversations