DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES





GPRA Bulletin 06-01

SUBJECT: Pneumococcal and Influenza Vaccinations Alert

DATE: February 10, 2006

TO: Executive Directors

CC: Site Mangers, Clinical Directors, GPRA Coordinators

Pneumococcal and Influenza Vaccinations for patients aged 65 and over are GPRA measures for 2006, as they have been in prior years. We want to focus attention on these two measures at this time because:

- 1. Influenza vaccines arrived late at many sites this year
- 2. Pneumococcal vaccination rates have been targeted for a significant improvement in 2006 and 2007, as part of Secretary Leavitt's Ten Percent Improvement Plan

Even though the influenza season is half over, there is still significant risk for elders who do not receive this vaccine. The aggregated result for California sites for the period July 1 through December 31 is only 43%, which means a large portion of this population is unprotected. We are enclosing a spreadsheet showing site by site results for your review.

The pneumococcal vaccination rate for the period July 1 through December 31 stands at 71%, and the California target is to increase results by 3 percentile points by June 30, 2006. The Pneumococcal rate is based on patients ever receiving a Pneumococcal vaccination.

The latest version of the Clinical Reporting System (the RPMS software package designed for monitoring and reporting of clinical GPRA measures) includes a new feature that allows clinics to create lists of patients missing any GPRA screening or procedure, so that they can be scheduled for appointments. Patient lists for each vaccination can also be prepared. Specific directions for preparing these lists appear in the CRS User manual beginning on page 126. Please contact elaine.brinn@ihs.gov, Janae.price@ihs.gov, susan.ducore@ihs.gov or Cynthia.perez@ihs.gov for additional assistance if needed.

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