The Path to a Sustainable School-located Vaccination (SLV) Model

“Teach Flu A Lesson”

Presenters:

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Background

- School-aged children are the most important vector for community transmission of influenza
- Objective of this program is to reduce influenza-like illness causing school absenteeism by offering school located vaccination clinics
- Free flu vaccines would be available to all interested students, regardless of insurance status
- The goal is to create herd immunity in a vulnerable population and to close health disparity gaps in our communities
About Influenza Among School-Age Children

• According to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, influenza is the leading cause of illness in America

• School-age children have the highest annual flu rates- as high as 42% according to the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Infectious Diseases

• Data shows that if you vaccinate 20% of children – you decrease U.S. flu cases by 46%; vaccinate 80% of children you decrease flu cases in the U.S. by 91%*

About School-Located Influenza Vaccination

- School-located vaccination clinics foster community immunity by helping to prevent influenza among children where outbreaks often start.
- The American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Infectious Disease recognizes a need for more school-located influenza immunization efforts.
- Although it is recognized that the medical home is the primary site for influenza vaccine administration for children, SLV programs would have the potential to efficiently immunize larger numbers of school-aged children.
- Stockton Unified School District estimates their successful flu vaccination program resulted in a 0.75% increase in average daily attendance, translating into approximately $750,000 in funding to the District.
The Beginning

  - LAUSD reached out to MedImmune to discuss the feasibility of a school-located vaccination (SLV) pilot project
  - A partnership between LA County Dept. of Public Health, LAUSD and Kaiser Permanente was formed to work on the project
  - Kaiser membership data (by zip code) was crosswalked with LAUSD schools in a geographic location where low flu vaccination uptake had been identified
  - The school administrators in the identified schools with the highest Kaiser Permanente membership were approached first as sites for this pilot
The Beginning

- Los Angeles Unified School District Pilot (Fall, 2013)
  - 5 schools were identified; each school had 90 to 1,000 students
  - 732 students were vaccinated against the flu (15% overall)
  - Several of these students had never received a flu vaccination previously
  - The LA County Medical Reserve Corp administered the vaccinations in the Los Angeles schools
Expansion into Orange & San Bernardino Counties

• Internal risk mapping by Kaiser Permanente Southern California (KPSC), to identify below average flu vaccination rates in Kaiser Permanente (KP) membership, enabled KP to hone and target specific geographic locations in Orange and San Bernardino Counties as well as LA County
Program Partnerships

- Los Angeles County Health Department
- Los Angeles County Emergency Preparedness and Response Program
- Medical Reserve Corps of Los Angeles County (MRC)
- Orange County Health Care Agency
- Orange County Department of Education (OCDE)
  - 6 school districts
- San Bernardino Department of Public Health
- Kaiser Permanente Southern California
- Local College/University Nursing Programs
Orange County District Recruitment

- School districts within the targeted geographic areas were identified
- District nurses invited, by OCDE, to a “meet and greet”
- All invited school districts interested; 4 of the 6 engaged 100% of the schools in their districts following school district Superintendent approval
Parent Outreach

• Principals sent letter home explaining *voluntary* flu vaccination program
• Letter accompanied consent and screening form
• Teach Flu a Lesson banners displayed in schools
• Automated telephone messages from the school reminded parents of upcoming clinic
Program Participants

- 7,500 elementary school students vaccinated; flu vaccination uptake per school site ranged from a low of 4% to a high of 28%; mean value of 12%
- 3 counties (Los Angeles, Orange, and San Bernardino)
- 10 different school districts
- 92 elementary school sites; 14 schools in Los Angeles County; 61 schools in Orange County; 17 schools in San Bernardino County
- Materials were translated into Spanish, Vietnamese and Korean
- Students were estimated to be 75-80% Medi-Cal eligible; but 85-90% Medi-Cal may be closer to reality
Roles & Responsibilities
School

- Prior to the clinic, distribution and initial screening of consents
- Total vaccine count; FluMist vs injectable for vaccine management
- Notification/reminder to staff and parents of flu clinic
- Securing site of flu clinic on school campus
- School nurse on-site day of flu vaccination clinic
- Assist with work flow and same day consent screening
• Provides school clinic staffing (student nurses)
• Student nurses will conduct secondary screening of consents on day of clinic
• Just in time training, work flow, VFC vaccine and flu vaccine for KP members
• School clinic supplies
• Consent and screening forms, VIS handouts, CAIR notification form, school banners and Save the Date flyers
County

- Provided flu vaccine for non VFC eligible or non KP member students
- In Los Angeles County, school clinic staff provided by MRC
Vaccine

- Kaiser Permanente vaccine for members
- Vaccine for Children (VFC) supplied vaccine for VFC eligible children
- County supplied vaccine for all other children
- Storage was at one of KPSC’s VFC providers – Baldwin Park Medical Center, Pediatrics Department
- Management of flu vaccine per EZIZ instructions; separate coolers for VFC, County and KP vaccine
Clinic Logistics

- Morning clinics scheduled – 2 locations per day (on average)
- Supplies and vaccine transported by KP personnel
- Documentation – consents were pre-screened by school nurses, re-screened upon entry to clinic and screened again at point of service
- Documentation of immunization was made on consent form
- Vaccination information input by student intern (post clinic) into State provided Excel spreadsheet for eventual uploading into California Immunization Registry (CAIR) system
- Two different staff models used:
  - MRC in Los Angeles County
  - Nursing program partners in Orange and San Bernardino counties
Program Impact

- Pursuing sustainability of program via billing for administration of flu vaccine – beginning with the public insurance programs in each county.

- The Orange County Health Care Agency is conducting a survey of intervention vs control schools to determine effect of SLVC’s on absenteeism rates.
Next Steps

- Branding of and tool kits for *Teach Flu a Lesson* program
- Earlier clinic start; beginning of October
- Ideally, MOUs signed and clinic dates scheduled prior to end of school year
- Expanding partnerships between nursing programs and school districts
- Formalizing student nurse training and certification for vaccine administration
Thank you for your interest!

- To view the slides:
  - Visit [www.ocde.us/health](http://www.ocde.us/health)