

Title of Intervention: Standing orders in a general medicine clinic

Intervention Strategies: Environments and Policies

Purpose of the Intervention: To increase influenza immunization rates in a general medicine clinic by using standing orders

Population: Participants aged 65 years or older

Setting: General Medicine Clinic at Minneapolis Veterans Administration Medical Center; health care facility-based

Partners: Minneapolis Veterans Administration Medical Center

Intervention Description:

- Environments and Policies: The clinic adopted a standing order policy that allowed nurses to identify and vaccinate high-risk elderly patients.

Theory: Not mentioned

Resources Required:

- Staff/Volunteers: Nurses
- Training: Nurses were trained to administer flu vaccine
- Technology: Not mentioned
- Space: Clinic space
- Budget: Not mentioned
- Intervention: Influenza vaccine
- Evaluation: Clinic charts

Evaluation:

- Design: Pre- and post-evaluation
- Methods and Measures:
 - Patient charts were examined before and after the intervention to determine immunization rates

Outcomes:

- Short Term Impact: There was a substantial increase in the influenza vaccine ordering rate due to knowledge of the importance.
- Long Term Impact: There was an improvement in immunization rates for high risk patients.

Maintenance: Not mentioned

Lessons Learned: Standing orders in general medicine clinics give nurses the responsibility to identify and immunize patients at high risk for influenza complications. This substantially improves compliance with immunization guidelines.

Citation(s):

Margolis, K. L., R. P. Lofgren, et al. (1988). "Organizational strategies to improve influenza vaccine delivery. A standing order in a general medicine clinic." *Arch Intern Med* 148(10): 2205-7.