

Title of Intervention: Special Supplemental Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and Immunization Activities

Intervention Strategies: Individual Education, Environments and Policies

Purpose of the Intervention: To increase childhood immunization rates among WIC participants

Population: Children younger than five participating in the WIC program and their mothers

Setting: WIC sites in Chicago; community-based

Partners: WIC, Chicago Department of Health

Intervention Description:

- Individual Education: All children were screened and referred to a health care provider for immunizations. A food voucher incentive was used to encourage parents to have their children immunized. Referrals entered information into WIC software. Parents were given a copy to take home.
- Environments and Policies: Children were sent to health care providers for free immunizations.

Theory: Not mentioned

Resources Required:

- Staff/Volunteers: Immunization staff
- Training: Vaccine administration training
- Technology: Computers, printer, WIC software
- Space: Immunization and screening space
- Budget: Not mentioned
- Intervention: WIC software, food vouchers
- Evaluation: WIC software

Evaluation:

- Design: Randomized trial
- Methods and Measures:
 - Number of food vouchers used
 - Effectiveness of intervention was measured by analysis of up-to-date immunization coverage

Outcomes:

- Short Term Impact: Not measured
- Long Term Impact: One and two years after the intervention, participants were significantly more likely to be up-to-date on immunizations.

Maintenance: Not mentioned

Lessons Learned: Linking immunization programs with WIC can return a great benefit to the nation's children for the money and time invested.

Citation(s):

Hutchins, S.S., et al., Effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of linking the special supplemental program for women, infants, and children (WIC) and immunization activities. J Public Health Policy, 1999. 20(4): p. 408-26.