

**Title of Intervention:** Counseling of Parents and Primary Care Physicians

**Intervention Strategies:** Provider Education, Individual Education

**Purpose of the Intervention:** To increase catch-up immunizations of underimmunized (missing 1 or more immunizations) patients after discharge

**Population:** Hospitalized children aged 61 days to 17 years and their parents

**Setting:** Basel University Children's Hospital, Basel, Switzerland; health care facility-based

**Partners:** None mentioned

**Intervention Description:**

- Provider Education: Individual physicians were informed by letter (within 1 week after discharge) about missing immunizations and were encouraged to administer catch-up immunizations.
- Individual Education: Parents were informed about missing immunizations before discharge and were encouraged to contact their primary care physicians for necessary catch-up immunizations.

**Theory:** Not mentioned

**Resources Required:**

- Staff/Volunteers: Staff to make follow-up inquires and perform mailings
- Training: Not mentioned
- Technology: Not mentioned
- Space: Not mentioned
- Budget: Not mentioned
- Intervention: Patient and immunization records, letters
- Evaluation: Medical charts, telephones, follow-up questionnaire

**Evaluation:**

- Design: Non-randomized group trial
- Methods and Measures:
  - Questionnaire assessed immunization status

**Outcomes:**

- Short Term Impact: Not measured.
- Long Term Impact: Significantly more catch-up immunizations were administered within 1 month after hospital discharge in the intervention group. The proportion of catch-up immunizations was not significantly higher in the intervention group compared with the control group 9 months after discharge.

**Maintenance:** Not mentioned

**Lessons Learned:** Repeated reminders might be needed if recommended immunizations are not performed shortly after hospital discharge.

**Citation(s):**

Muehleisen, B., et al., Assessment of immunization status in hospitalized children followed by counseling of parents and primary care physicians improves vaccination coverage: an interventional study. *J Pediatr*, 2007. 151(6): p. 704-6, 706 e1-2.