

**Title of Intervention:** A Patient-Carried Reminder Card Immunization Intervention

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

**Purpose of the Intervention:** To determine if patients who carried health maintenance cards had an increase in the performance of health maintenance procedures over that achieved by attaching a computer-generated reminder to the patient's chart

**Population:** Patients of an outpatient resident clinic

**Setting:** An outpatient clinic from the Section of General Internal Medicine of the Department of Medicine of East Carolina University School of Medicine in Greenville, NC; health care facility-based

**Partners:** None mentioned

**Intervention Description:**

- Provider Education: Individuals in a control group received only the computer prompt sheet on the cover of their chart. The sheet listed preventive measures based on sex, age, diagnoses and time of year as well as pneumococcal vaccination and influenza vaccination.
- Individual Education: A health maintenance card prompt containing three items for the men and six items for the women was given to patients by a clinic receptionist. The participants were instructed to keep the card, bring it to all future appointments, and show it to their health care providers.

**Theory:** Not mentioned

**Resources Required:**

- Staff/Volunteers: Health care providers, clinic receptionist
- Training: Not mentioned
- Technology: Computer
- Space: Not mentioned
- Budget: Not mentioned
- Intervention: Health maintenance cards, clinic cooperation
- Evaluation: Individual's charts

**Evaluation:**

- Design: Randomized experiment/control group
- Methods and Measures:
  - Performance of each health maintenance procedure was measured and compared between the two groups.

**Outcomes:**

- Short term Impact: Not measured
- Long Term Impact: The participants in the card reminder group had significant increases in influenza vaccination.

**Maintenance:** Not mentioned

**Lessons Learned:** More extensive patient education efforts about health maintenance using brochures, audiocassettes, videocassettes, or a patient educator may further increase the physician performance of measures.

**Citation(s):** Turner, R.C., L.E. Waivers, and K. O'Brien, The effect of patient-carried reminder cards on the performance of health maintenance measures. Arch Intern Med, 1990. 150(3): p. 645-7.