

ENHANCING INFLUENZA VACCINE KNOWLEDGE AND CONFIDENCE AMONG RESIDENTS

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Background: The 2017-18 influenza season was of epidemic proportion. Many of the children who died were unvaccinated. Yet one third of parents interviewed prior to the 2018-2019 influenza season reported their children would not receive influenza vaccines. Pediatric residents may not be comfortable counseling vaccine hesitant families. Through a fellow-led QI project, we sought to provide educational interventions to increase pediatric residents' knowledge and confidence counseling influenza vaccine hesitant families.

Materials/Methods: Baseline data was obtained via anonymous online surveys to measure pediatric residents' confidence and perceived knowledge of resources. Residents participated in fellow-led educational sessions that discussed vaccine manufacturing, adverse effects and common myths. The CASE method, a resource to improve counseling skills toward vaccine hesitant families, was introduced. Resources were distributed with facts debunking common myths and an outline of the CASE method. Residents participated in a role play activity to practice counseling. In a second educational session for PDSA cycle 2, the role play activity was modified to facilitate increased interaction and provide feedback on counseling techniques.

Results: Baseline data showed that 58% of pediatric residents reported being knowledgeable about resources for influenza vaccine hesitant families; 46% of residents reported being confident addressing parents' influenza vaccine related concerns. After the initial intervention, residents' knowledge increased to 100% and confidence to 56%. After the second intervention, residents' knowledge was reported at 93% and confidence at 79%.

Conclusions: Providing education to pediatric residents about the influenza vaccine and guided counseling can increase residents' knowledge and confidence in counseling parents who are influenza vaccine hesitant. Future studies will explore using this same technique to improve resident confidence in counseling in other difficult situations.