Family-centered influenza vaccination program

PROVIDER
Mayo Clinic Children’s Center

CHALLENGE
Creating readily available access to influenza is necessary to increase vaccine uptake. Capturing pediatric vaccine needs and eligibility by pediatric nurses is imperative for safe administration. Providing pediatric patients, families, and caregivers with influenza vaccinations creates a cocooning affect to protect children who have higher risks for complications. Mayo Clinic primary care clinics traditionally assess influenza vaccination status and offer vaccine during routine visits. The pediatric subspecialty outpatient clinic didn’t routinely assess family members or caregivers vaccination status.

PROCESS FOR CHANGE
In 2011, the Mayo Clinic Children’s Center initiated a family-centered influenza vaccination program. The program surveyed families interested in receiving vaccination and screened children for vaccine eligibility. Nurses and physicians provided information and encouraged vaccination. Vaccines were administered during appointments for those who requested one and were eligible. In 2012, the program expanded for children of any adult patients in an ambulatory setting at Mayo Clinic.

RESULTS
The pediatric specialty outpatient clinic administered:
• 120 influenza vaccines in 2010 (prior to program), 467 influenza vaccines in 2011; 1,050 influenza vaccines in 2012; and 1,518 influenza vaccines in 2013

ADOPTION CONSIDERATIONS
• Pediatric patients, families and caregivers value combined services at appointments
• Assessment survey is valuable for understanding vaccine refusal and vaccine needs
• Adding intra-nasal immunizations and Tdap is a satisfier for families

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SUSTAINING THE GAINS
• Provide ongoing nursing and provider education and updates for the program
• Assess and evaluate feedback to adjust program for maximum use
• Designate allocated nursing to provide influenza vaccines
• Use a nursing influenza protocol to enhance administration and documentation
• Complete an annual review of evidence-based practice for vaccine administration