Addressing the COVID-19 Crisis: An Open Forum Webinar Series for Pharmacists

September 10, 2020
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Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy
President, APhA

Host and Moderator
Today’s Focus:

Discuss recommendations for the upcoming influenza season, the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic and new approaches to immunization activities in your practice.
Steve Foster, PharmD, FAPhA
APhA Liaison to ACIP
CAPT (Ret.), U.S.P.H.S.

Guest Speaker
Olivia Kinney, PharmD, MS
Manager, Clinical Program Development
Kroger Health

Guest Speaker
Daniel Zlott, PharmD, BCOP
Senior Vice President
Education and Business Development
American Pharmacists Association

Subject Matter Expert: Q&A
Ilisa BG Bernstein, PharmD, JD, FAPhA
Senior Vice President
Pharmacy Practice and Government Affairs
American Pharmacists Association

Subject Matter Expert: Q&A
Disclosures

Today’s guest speakers and APhA staff declare no conflicts of interest or financial interests in any product or service mentioned in this activity, including grants, employment, gifts, stock holdings, and honoraria.
CPE Information

Target Audience: Pharmacists and Technicians
ACPE#:0202-0000-20-325-L06-P
Activity Type: Knowledge-based
Learning Objectives

1. Summarize the 2020-2021 influenza vaccine recommendations.
2. Discuss the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on the upcoming influenza season.
3. Develop a strategy to prepare for challenges to routine influenza vaccination due to COVID-19.
4. Identify key sources of information to remain informed as the influenza season progresses.
Recognizing that ACIP changes their influenza recommendations every year, the time to begin your routine vaccination program for this year is:

a. As soon as the vaccine arrives at your practice site
b. July and August to protect for a possible early season
c. After August, but no later than October
d. After October to maximize late season response
A person who presents for influenza vaccination and has an active case of COVID-19, should be advised to:

a. Not receive an influenza vaccine this year
b. Get the vaccine immediately
c. Referred to a physician to get the vaccine
d. Delay vaccination until the patient is no longer acutely ill
Which of the following does not describe a strategy to safely provide vaccines during a pandemic?

a. Moving pharmacy waiting area chairs to encourage social distancing
b. Leveraging digital solutions like online consent forms and vaccination information statements
c. Storing reusable personal protective equipment with other personal belongings
d. Separating reusable pens and clipboards after use for sanitation
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Advisory Committee on Vaccine Practices (ACIP) is:

a. A group of health experts who enroll volunteers in vaccine clinical trials
b. A group of health experts who develop recommendations on the use of vaccines in the United States
c. A group of health experts that work with the World Health Organization to develop global vaccine recommendations
d. A group of government officials who decide how vaccines will be disseminated to the population
Format for Today’s Webinar

1:00 pm: Introductions

1:05 pm: Discussion with Steve Foster, APhA Liaison to ACIP, CAPT (Ret.) U.S.P.H.S

1:15 pm: Discussion with Olivia Kinney, Kroger Health

1:25 pm: Open Forum: A Minute for Your Thoughts

1:50 pm: Wrap Up: Review of APhA’s Ongoing Activities and Assessment Questions
Open Forum Ground Rules

• Use the **Questions** field on the GoToWebinar toolbar to submit comments and questions related to the topic discussion.

• Individuals whose submissions are selected will be asked by the moderator to state the comment or question for the audience. The line for the individual will be unmuted to read their comment or question.

• To maximize the number of questions/comments addressed, a **60-second time limit** will be in effect for everyone to state their question or comment.

• We will try to get to as many comments and questions as possible. We have created a new forum for COVID-19 discussions where further discussion post-webinar. Information on participating in this forum will be provided at the end of the open forum.
Discussion with Steve Foster

Discuss recommendations for the upcoming influenza season, the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic and new approaches to immunization activities in your practice.
2019-2020 U.S. Flu Season: Preliminary Burden Estimates

CDC estimates* that, from October 1, 2019, through February 22, 2020, there have been:

- 32,000,000 – 45,000,000 flu illnesses
- 14,000,000 – 21,000,000 flu medical visits
- 310,000 – 560,000 flu hospitalizations
- 18,000 – 46,000 flu deaths

Annually since 2010

Deaths
12,000 - 61,000*

Hospitalizations
140,000 - 810,000*

Illnesses
9,300,000 – 45,000,000*

*The top range of these burden estimates are from the 2017-2018 flu season. These are preliminary and may change as data are finalized.

https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/burden/preliminary-in-season-estimates.htm
Vaccine Virus Selection 2020-21

**Egg Based Vaccines**

- an A/Guangdong-Maonan/SWL1536/2019 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus;
- an A/Hong Kong/2671/2019 (H3N2)-like virus;
- a B/Washington/02/2019 (B/Victoria lineage)-like virus; and
- a B/Phuket/3073/2013 (B/Yamagata lineage)-like virus. (Quad)

**Cell or recombinant Based**

- an A/Hawaii/70/2019 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus;
- an A/Hong Kong/45/2019 (H3N2)-like virus;
- a B/Washington/02/2019 (B/Victoria lineage)-like virus; and
- a B/Phuket/3073/2013 (B/Yamagata lineage)-like virus. (Quad)

★ Change from last year
Newly Licensed Vaccines

**Fluzone High-Dose Quadrivalent (HD-IIV4) – Sanofi Pasteur**
- ≥65 years of age
- Volume 0.7 ml
- 4 times the amount of antigen than standard dose

**Fluad Quadrivalent**
- ≥65 years of age
- Adjuvant MF59
- Fluad Trivalent still available
Timing

“...vaccination is recommended to be offered by the end of October.”

“For those requiring only 1 dose for the season, early vaccination (i.e., in July and August) is likely to be associated with suboptimal immunity before the end of the influenza season, particularly among older adults.”

“Community vaccination programs should balance maximizing the likelihood of persistence of vaccine-induced protection through the season with avoiding missed opportunities”

“No recommendation is made for revaccination (i.e., providing a booster dose) later in the season of persons who have already been fully vaccinated.”
All persons aged ≥6 months who do not have contraindications should be vaccinated annually.
Influenza Vaccination of Persons with COVID-19

- Clinical experience is limited
- Delay vaccination until patients no longer acutely ill
- Recall patients that have been delayed
# Influenza Vaccines, 2020-21 Influenza Season

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccine</th>
<th>Manufacturer</th>
<th>Dosage</th>
<th>Age Groups</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afluria (IIV4) - Seqirus</td>
<td>Seqirus</td>
<td>0.25ml</td>
<td>6-35 months, 0.5ml ≥3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluarix (IIV4) - GSK</td>
<td>GSK</td>
<td>0.5ml</td>
<td>≥6 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FluLaval (IIV4) - GSK</td>
<td>GSK</td>
<td>0.5ml</td>
<td>≥6 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluzone (IIV4) – Sanofi-Pasteur</td>
<td>Sanofi-Pasteur</td>
<td>0.5ml</td>
<td>≥6 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluzone High-Dose (IIV4) – Sanofi-Pasteur</td>
<td>Sanofi-Pasteur</td>
<td>0.7ml</td>
<td>≥65 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluad (IIV3 and IIV4) - Seqirus</td>
<td>Seqirus</td>
<td>0.5ml</td>
<td>≥65 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flublok (RIV4) – Sanofi-Pasteur</td>
<td>Sanofi-Pasteur</td>
<td>0.5ml</td>
<td>≥18 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flucelvax (ccIIV4) – Seqirus</td>
<td>Seqirus</td>
<td>0.5ml</td>
<td>≥4 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FluMist (LIAV4) – AstraZeneca</td>
<td>AstraZeneca</td>
<td>0.2ml intranasal</td>
<td>2-49 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Discussion with Olivia Kinney

Discuss recommendations for the upcoming influenza season, the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic and new approaches to immunization activities in your practice.
Pandemic Practice Implications & Observations

Vaccine demand has increased

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) supply comes with a lead time

Contactless experiences are expected

Creative solutions are key
Social Distancing Strategies

- Designate floor markers
- Utilize plexiglass barriers
- Distance the waiting area
Digital Strategies

- Leverage QR Codes
- Use electronic consent forms
- Schedule online appointments
- Consider online VIS
PPE
Strategies

• Use thoughtfully
• Reuse if possible
• Store in-use PPE away from personal belongings
• Dispose appropriately
Separation Strategies

- Clean vs. dirty pens & clipboards
- Sick vs. well counseling rooms, if appropriate
- Remain in vehicle and call pharmacy before walking in
Education Strategies

Patient Vaccine Hesitancy

• Unwilling?
  — Find their why & leverage low copay as applicable
  — With permission, share facts or personal experience

• Safety concerns?
  — Describe PPE & social distancing precautions
  — Suggest a slower traffic time & maximize the visit
  — Recommend scheduling an appointment

Provider Vaccine Hesitancy

• Protect your people
  — Strive to provide adequate PPE
  — Build in Emergency Leave Guidelines

• Provide opportunities for education
  — Via email & on the job (web-based and in-person)
  — Balance guidance with goals
Team Strategies

• Meet with your team to share expectations and commit to safe vaccine provision
• Work in consistent teams in case of infection
• Celebrate big and small wins!
Key Information Sources

• APhA
  • The Pharmacists' Guide to Coronavirus – Immunizations
  • Immunization Center
  • APhA-APPM Immunizing Pharmacists SIG
• Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
  • Vaccination Guidance During a Pandemic
  • Guidance for Planning Vaccination Clinics Held at Satellite, Temporary, or Off-Site Locations
• Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) Updates via Email
• Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)
  • Prevention and Control of Seasonal Influenza with Vaccines: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices — United States, 2020–21 Influenza Season
Key Information Sources

• World Health Organization (WHO)
  • Immunization Resources
• State and local public health authorities
• State boards of pharmacy
  • Updates often by email that apply to your practice state
• NASPA – COVID-19: Vaccines
Open Forum Discussion: A Minute for Your Thoughts
Comments, Questions, Feedback
Review of APhA’s Ongoing Activities and What’s Coming
Trump Administration Takes Action to Expand Access to COVID-19 Vaccines

Today, under the leadership of President Trump, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Assistant Secretary for Health, issued guidance under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act) to expand access to safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines when they are made available. This guidance authorizes state-licensed pharmacists to order and administer, and state-licensed or registered pharmacy interns acting under the supervision of the qualified pharmacist to administer, COVID-19 vaccinations to persons ages 3 or older, subject to certain requirements.

“This action builds upon our Administration’s progress toward delivering a safe, effective, and widely available vaccine by 2021,” said Assistant Secretary for Health ADM Brett P. Giroir, M.D. “Allowing pharmacists to order and administer COVID-19 vaccines will greatly expand convenient access for the American people.”
Pharmacists’ Guide to Coronavirus

www.pharmacist.com/coronavirus

IMMUNIZATIONS DURING COVID-19

FEATURED UPDATES

HHS Expands COVID-19 Vaccine Access
HHS authorizes pharmacists to order and administer COVID-19 vaccines approved or licensed by FDA to all individuals age 3 or older.

NIAID Volunteer Opportunity
The COVID-19 Prevention Network seeks pharmacists and pharmacy personnel to inform the public of the opportunity to participate in COVID-19 vaccine clinical trials.

HHS Expands Childhood Vaccine Access
In a major win, HHS authorizes pharmacists to order and administer vaccines to children nationwide during the public health emergency.

PROVIDING IMMUNIZATIONS

Well-Child Visit Templates: Tools to meet HHS requirement (September 9)
A Task Force on Pharmacist Engagement in State-Based COVID Vaccination comprising APhA, NASPA, and NCPA and state pharmacy association executives developed three tools for use by pharmacists to satisfy the requirement under the HHS Amendments authorizing pharmacists to administer childhood and COVID-19 vaccines. The latest HHS Amendment states: “The licensed pharmacist must, if the patient is 18 years of age or younger, inform the patient and the adult caregiver accompanying the patient of the importance of a well-child visit with a pediatrician or other licensed primary-care provider and refer patients as appropriate.” Two tools are Word documents, so individuals may customize or add data.

Well-Child Visit Brochure (PDF)
Template Referral Form Well Child Visit (Word)
Well Child Checkup Letter (Word)

APhA Know the Facts: Vaccination Basics: A Guide for Pharmacists Vaccinating During the COVID-19 Pandemic (July 8)
While scientists around the world work to develop a vaccine against the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2), many pharmacists remain on the front line, providing essential patient care services during this public health crisis, including vaccinations. Here are vaccination FAQs (PDF).

APhA Weekly Open Forum Webinar: Immunizations: Testing (May 28)
Watch the latest information on national recommendations for pharmacists providing immunizations during the pandemic, considerations for the upcoming fall season, and an update on COVID-19 vaccine development. APhA staff also provided an update on billing and payment for COVID-19 testing. Our guest speaker was Dr. L.J. Tan, Chief
It’s Game Time! Tell Congress Pharmacists Can Help Fight COVID-19 and Influenza!

• Your immediate participation will help spur conversation within Congress about the need for pharmacists’ provider status during the public health emergency.

• We need ALL of our representatives to advocate to Congressional leadership in both parties to ensure this receives the attention it – and our patients – deserve so it is included in the next legislative package!

To take action now, go to: https://actioncenter.pharmacist.com/campaign/coronavirus/

To learn about how you can call your representatives, contact Mary-Ryan Douglass at mrdouglass@aphanet.org
Understanding Policy Priorities and Advocacy Opportunities During COVID-19

Why This Matters

A Look at Flexibilities & Authorities for Pharmacists During the COVID-19 Pandemic

If action is not taken, patients will not be able to receive needed care at pharmacies across the country now and once the public health emergency ends. In this short video, learn about the flexibilities and authorities extended to pharmacists to date and what work can still be done to achieve the key policy priorities outlined in the handout below and on this page.

Download Now

https://www.pharmacist.com/coronavirus/advocacy-opportunities
COVID-19 Education Opportunities – CE Available

Tuesday, September 15th (1-2pm ET)
• Summarize the recommended pediatric immunizations and the normal schedule for their administration.
• Discuss the pharmacist’s role in identifying patients who may have missed immunizations secondary to COVID-19.
• Develop an action plan to assist patient caregivers to safely allow children to catch up on their immunization series because of COVID-19.

Register Here

Psychological Impact of COVID-19 on Patients and their Providers
Wednesday, September 16th (1-2pm ET)
• Explain the psychological impact of COVID-19 using Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs.
• Discuss the impact of psychological burden of COVID-19 on healthcare providers.
• Identify effective strategies that pharmacists at frontline can use to assist patients overcome the burden associated with COVID-19.

Register Here
Coming Soon:
Pediatric Immunization Refresher for Pharmacists
• 2 hours of CPE focused on pediatric immunizations
  • A review of pediatric immunization administration techniques
  • A review of pediatric vaccines
• Meets HHS requirements for pharmacists to provide pediatric immunizations!
• Only $39 for APhA members/$59 for non-members
• Available in 2-3 weeks!
Post on ENGAGE
Pharmacy’s Response to COVID-19

POST your questions
SHARE your lessons learned
SUPPORT your colleagues
ACCESS the latest information

What changes are you making to prepare for the influenza season?
How are you approaching vaccine hesitancy?
Join Us

• Next Weekly webinar will be on Thursday, September 17th, from 1-2pm ET
• Today’s webinar recording and slides will be available within 24hrs

https://www.pharmacist.com/coronavirus/weekly-webinars
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The Attendance Code will be announced on the next slide

- Be prepared to record the code when it appears
- To Claim CPE Credit:
  1. After the webinar ends, return to the “My Training” page on pharmacist.com (http://elearning.pharmacist.com/my-training)
  2. Log in using your pharmacist.com username and password
  3. Click on the “Phall, Phlu, Pharmacy Amidst COVID-19” session listed in your enrollments
  4. Click on “Phall, Phlu, Pharmacy Amidst COVID-19” under the “Activities” heading
  5. Enter the attendance code
  6. Complete the evaluation
  7. Claim credit