Influenza Vaccination among Pregnant Women: The Role of Medical Professionals in Increasing Vaccination Coverage from the 2010-11 to 2012-13 Influenza Seasons

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The data were weighted by age, race/ethnicity, and census region to reflect the demographic composition of the target population.

We used weighted analyses to determine vaccination coverage by report of provider influenza vaccination recommendation and/or offer and to identify the types of providers that offered vaccination.

The sample included between 1,404 (2010-11 season) and 1,702 (2012-13 season) women.7 Each season, the sample included 15-20% non-Hispanic black women and 20-25% Hispanic women. The majority of women each season were age 25-34.

References for Background


4 CDC. Influenza vaccination coverage among pregnant women–Internet panel surveys, United States, 2010-11 through 2012-13 influenza seasons. Of those women who reported their providers both recommended and offered vaccination, between 65.8% (2010-11 season) and 70.3% (2012-13 season) were vaccinated.

During the 2011-12 and 2012-13 influenza seasons, the most common types of health professionals that offered influenza vaccination were obstetricians/gynecologists, family physicians, and nurses.

During each of the three seasons, the majority of vaccinated women received the influenza vaccination at their OB/GYN office or their family doctor or other doctor's office. Other locations women reported receiving the vaccination included hospitals, pharmacies, and workplaces.

Conclusions

Pregnant women who received a provider offer of influenza vaccination consistently had the highest vaccination coverage over the three influenza seasons.

Providers that pregnant women reported as being least likely to offer influenza vaccination included pharmacists, pediatricians, and midwives.

 Providers should be encouraged to recommend and offer influenza vaccination to pregnant women.

Public health efforts should focus on educating pregnant women about the possibility of accessing vaccination services from any medical provider.

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Medical professional recommendation for and offer of influenza vaccination among pregnant women = Internet panel surveys, United States, 2010-11 through 2012-13 influenza seasons7

Findings

Influenza vaccination coverage among pregnant women who visited a health care provider, by provider recommendation or offer of vaccination, United States, 2010-11 through 2012-13 influenza seasons

Provider Recommendation or Offer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Influenza season</th>
<th>April 2011</th>
<th>April 2012</th>
<th>April 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical professional offered vaccination</td>
<td>793 62.6</td>
<td>864 62.1</td>
<td>1,011 66.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical professional recommended but did not offer vaccination</td>
<td>128 33.4</td>
<td>197 46.0</td>
<td>328 47.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical professional did not recommend or offer vaccination</td>
<td>415 8.4</td>
<td>521 12.9</td>
<td>349 10.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Types of medical professionals that offered influenza vaccination to pregnant women–Internet panel surveys, United States, 2011-12 and 2012-13 influenza seasons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medical professional</th>
<th>April 2012 (n = 864)</th>
<th>April 2013 (n = 1,017)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OB/GYN</td>
<td>128 33.4</td>
<td>128 33.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family physician</td>
<td>91 23.6</td>
<td>102 25.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse</td>
<td>102 25.6</td>
<td>128 25.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwife</td>
<td>32 8.3</td>
<td>41 4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physician Assistant</td>
<td>32 8.3</td>
<td>44 4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacist</td>
<td>12 3.1</td>
<td>16 1.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Medical professional offered vaccination to your

Provider recommendation and offer definitions:

2010-11 season:

- Provider recommendations based on question: “During your visits to the doctor/medical professional, did your doctor or other health professional personally recommend that you get a flu vaccination since August 2010?”

- Provider offer based on question: “During your visits to the doctor/medical professional, did your doctor or other health professional offer you the flu vaccine during the influenza season?”

2011-12 and 2012-13 seasons:

- Provider recommendation based on question: “Since August 2011 during your visits to the doctor/medical professional, did your doctor or other health professional personally recommend that you get a flu vaccination?”

- Provider offer based on question: “Since August 2011 during your visits to the doctor/medical professional, did your doctor or other health professional offer you the flu vaccine?”

Provider recommendations and offers were based on whether the women received vaccination in the influenza season.