

MISSED OPPORTUNITIES GUIDE



Use Every Health Encounter* With A 16-Year-Old As An Opportunity To Vaccinate

PERFORM AT ALL VISITS

AIM

ASK

ASSESS

ADMINISTER

ACT!

WELL VISITS

Integrate immunization (MenACWY, MenB, and flu (seasonally)) into all 16-year-old well visits

Do I routinely recommend MenACWY (2nd dose/booster) and discuss the value of MenB at all 16-year-old well visits?

PHYSICALS & VAX ONLY VISITS

Incorporate immunization assessment as part of 16-year-old physicals and vaccination only visits

Do I routinely include immunization assessment as part of all sports, camp, and school physicals?

Do I routinely assess immunization status at visits for vaccine series completion or flu shots?

CHRONIC CARE & ACUTE CARE VISITS

Leverage chronic care/medical followups and minor illness/injury visits as immunization opportunities

Do I incorporate immunization assessment into followup visits for chronic conditions or medical issues and at minor illness/injury visits?

"Take 10"

Choose a visit type (e.g., physicals), and then identify the 10 most recent health encounters with 16-year-olds:

Is immunization assessment included in each of these visits?

Is immunization assessment routine (e.g., included for all encounters) or on a case-by-case basis?

If not routine, who determines whether to include as part of the visit, and how?

Are there health encounter types for which you are NOT comfortable recommending vaccination? Why?

What drives the likelihood of assessment, recommendation, and administration for this visit type? (e.g., SOPs, data availability, staff role, etc.)

If a recommendation is made, are both meningococcal vaccines recommended and/or administered? (Is flu vaccine recommended? (seasonally))

If you would like to offer MenB vaccination to a patient, recommend both meningococcal vaccines (and flu vaccine (seasonally)) during health encounters with 16-year-olds

Example Recommendation

"Today you are due for two shots that can protect you from meningitis, a rare but serious brain infection. There are two vaccines because they protect you from different types of meningitis infections. Meningitis can lead to serious illness or even death so I want to protect you from as many types as I can. The nurse will be in shortly to give you your vaccines."

Administer all due and overdue vaccines (catch-up immunization) at the same visit. *Adolescents visit less frequently as they age so take the here-and-now opportunity to bring them up to date...vaccinate!*

Vaccination Status

Nurse/Medical Assistant check of IIS/registry or chart, EHR prompt at health encounters with 16-year-olds

Vaccines Due

Patient chart notation of "vaccine(s) due", IIS/registry forecasting EHR alert

Implementation

Standing orders (MenACWY, MenB), vaccination-only appointment for 16-year-olds

*Distribution of Visits (11-18 years): non-preventive care (59%), preventive care (28%), vax only (13%)
Wong, C. et al, Missed Opportunities for Adolescent Vaccination, 2006-2011, Journal of Adolescent Health, May 9, 2013
Funding for Unity's VAX@16 campaign is provided by our members, including vaccine manufacturers.



As one strong voice, Unity Consortium addresses the unique challenges surrounding adolescent and young adult preventive healthcare and immunization. [Please visit Unity4TeenVax.org](http://Unity4TeenVax.org)