Vaccines Lower Priority on Preventive Health List

Importance to Parents of Teens:

- 95% avoiding alcohol/drugs/smoking
- 94% getting enough sleep
- 92% keeping safe from STDs
- 93% maintaining oral health
- 80% getting all recommended vaccines

GAP between words and action

9 in 10 teens say they are genuinely interested in living a healthy lifestyle and taking more responsibility for their health, yet only 1 teen in 10 wants to take more responsibility for getting vaccinated.

Lower Priority and Lack of Understanding May Have Consequences

While 89% of teens are comfortable speaking with parents about their health:

- 58% only see a doctor or HCP when they feel sick
- 47% do not like talking to their HCPs
- 34% don’t know how being vaccinated helps them
- 23% believe vaccines are for babies, not as important for teens

Red ALERT

Vaccine rates are TOO LOW

Physicians report that less than 80% of teens have received all recommended vaccines. The CDC recommends adolescents receive the following vaccines *

- HPV – human papillomavirus
- Meningococcal – 2 types: ACWY and serogroup B
- Tdap – tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough) and Td Booster – tetanus and diphtheria
- Flu – influenza

As one strong voice, Unity Consortium addresses the unique challenges surrounding adolescent and young adult health, prevention and immunization. Please visit Unity4TeenVax.org

Make sure all adolescents are UP TO DATE with their vaccinations:

Parents and Teens
- Make appointments for annual check-ups especially at 11-12 and 16-years of age when vaccines are routinely given and learn more about the benefits of vaccination on Unity4TeenVax.org

Immunizers
- Less than half of HCPs have missed vaccination reminders.
- Set up a reminder system for parents and teens especially for 11-12 and 16-year old visits
- Utilize Unity tools and resources to support concise and impactful conversations about preventive health and vaccination


This Unity survey was supported by Pfizer Inc., a member of Unity Consortium. The survey was conducted online by Harris Poll in 2016 among 506 teens aged 13-18, 515 parents of teens, and 405 primary care physicians. For complete survey methodology, please contact Unity.