The Role You Play in Increasing COVID-19 Vaccine Rates

Deanna Tran, PharmD, BCACP
Assistant Professor
University of Maryland School of Pharmacy
Dtran@rx.umaryland.edu
Perceptions of COVID-19 Vaccines

Drop in share of Americans who say they would get a COVID-19 vaccine if it were available to them today

% of U.S. adults who say if a vaccine to prevent COVID-19 were available today, they...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ALL ADULTS</th>
<th>REP/LEAN REP</th>
<th>DEM/LEAN DEM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>May '20</td>
<td>Sept '20</td>
<td>May '20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Would get the vaccine</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Definitely</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probable</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Definitely</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Would NOT get the vaccine</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Respondents who did not give an answer are not shown.
"U.S. Public Now Divided Over Whether To Get COVID-19 Vaccine”

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
Hesitancy in COVID-19 Vaccines

• Concerns about COVID-19 vaccine development process
• Concerns about COVID-19 vaccine (side effects, efficacy)
Hesitancy in COVID-19 Vaccines (cont’d)

- Misinformation presented by the government and media
- Underlying vaccine hesitancy (vaccines in general)
  - Concerns of autism
  - Concerns of “overloading” the body
  - Herd immunity from others

https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/article/autism-vaccine-myth/
Building Trust To Increase Vaccine Rates

- Role-modeling for our patients and community members
- Aim to increase knowledge and awareness of the vaccine’s process, benefits, and potential risks
- Uniform and targeted messaging to help build public interest and trust
- Providing accurate and up-to-date information
- Debunk myths and misconceptions
- Be honest
Strategies for Vaccine Hesitancy

• Multidisciplinary approach with engagement of community leaders
• Utilize motivational interviewing
• Improve convenience and access
Access to COVID-19 Vaccines

• Many vaccination providers and settings including:
  • Doctor’s offices
  • Hospitals
  • LTCFs
  • Organizations serving people at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19
  • Congregate settings
  • Colleges and universities
  • Homeless shelters
  • Pharmacies
Pharmacists Involvement in Vaccinations

• Pharmacists in all 50 states can administer immunizations
  • Approximately 1/3 of adults receive their influenza vaccine from a pharmacist
  • Can provide to various age ranges and all ACIP approved immunizations

• Pharmacists increases access:
  • Assist with rural and medically underserved communities
  • Nearly 90% of Americans live within 5 miles of a community pharmacy
  • Convenient hours
  • Ability to do large scale clinics
Pharmacists Involvement in COVID-19 Vaccines

• HHS authorized licensed pharmacists to order and administer COVID-19 vaccines to 3+ years old

• LTC facilities can partner with CVS, Walgreens, or existing LTC pharmacy to provide COVID-19 vaccine services to nursing homes and assisted living facilities
Bring Awareness of Vaccine Access

• Assist community members/patients with plan to receive COVID-19 vaccine
• Utilize all resources including other available healthcare providers
The Role You Play in Increasing COVID-19 Vaccine Rates

Deanna Tran, PharmD, BCACP
Assistant Professor
University of Maryland School of Pharmacy
Dtran@rx.umaryland.edu