

Don't Hesitate - Vaccinate!



TIPS FOR SUCCESS

CHAIRSIDE SUGGESTIONS

- ✔ Rather than a primary focus on a patient's hesitancy, take on a broader approach of **health promotion**. Work in partnership to promote confidence in the vaccine as opposed to mere acceptance.
- ✔ Build a trusting rapport and have honest conversations.
- ✔ Used trusted, scientific information and **avoid potential misinformation**.
- ✔ Be understanding of concerns and guide patients to credible sources and explanations (ex: describe **herd immunity**, how vaccines are made, give them resources to trusted websites).
- ✔ Staff who were initially hesitant to receive the vaccine but did get vaccinated should share their stories.
- ✔ **Lead by example**. Nurses spend the most time with patients face-to-face and are often considered the most trusted healthcare professional. Role modeling and promoting the safety of vaccines at the bedside/chairside is critical.
- ✔ Help patients explore their own reason for getting vaccinated! This is about **empowerment**. Will they feel safer going out in the public or visiting sick relatives?

CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING

- ✔ Black, Asian, and other ethnic populations often have distrust in the healthcare system due to past unethical practices (ex: Tuskegee). For groups of minorities, **consider bringing in a trusted member of their community and training them to vaccinate under nursing supervision OR host a vaccine event**.
- ✔ **Do not assume** you know the reason why a patient has previously declined vaccination. Politely ask them.
- ✔ Do not place too much **pressure**, which can further deter their decision to vaccinate.
- ✔ **Tell them they need it!** Many patients have stated they have not gotten vaccinated simply because their provider hasn't specifically told them they need to.