

Vaccination

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Disclaimer

- For educational purposes only
- No endorsement of products, software, or tools

Target Audience

- Clinical staff
- Infection preventionist
- Administration
- House Keeping
- Dietary / Food Service
- Laundry
- Maintenance

Objectives

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DESCRIBE THE IMPORTANCE OF
VACCINATION IN LONG-TERM CARE
SETTINGS



COMPARE AND CONTRAST DIFFERENT
VACCINES



OUTLINE THE PROCESS OF MANAGING
AND IMPLEMENTING A VACCINE
PROGRAM

Introduction

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- A study by the National Institutes for Health showed that fully vaccinated elderly residents
 - Had an 88.4% decrease in hospitalizations
 - Had a 97.0% reduction in deaths
- Vaccinations are crucial to protecting both residents and staff against a variety of illnesses, such as influenza, COVID-19, and pneumonia
- Vaccinations are also important for residents as they likely have a weakened immune system or other ongoing illnesses

What are vaccines?

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A safe and effective way of building your body's natural defenses to resist certain infections

Vaccines introduce a live, weakened, or dead virus to your body so that you can build antibodies against that virus

Those antibodies are then able to recognize the real virus in the future and fight it more effectively

Myths about Vaccines

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Vaccines cause
autism and SIDS

Vaccines cause
you to become
sick

Vaccines contain
many harmful
ingredients

Vaccines contain
microchips

Vaccines will
alter my DNA

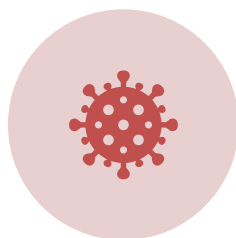
Common Vaccines in Long-Term Care



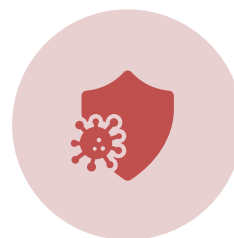
INFLUENZA



COVID-19



PNEUMOCOCCAL



SHINGLES

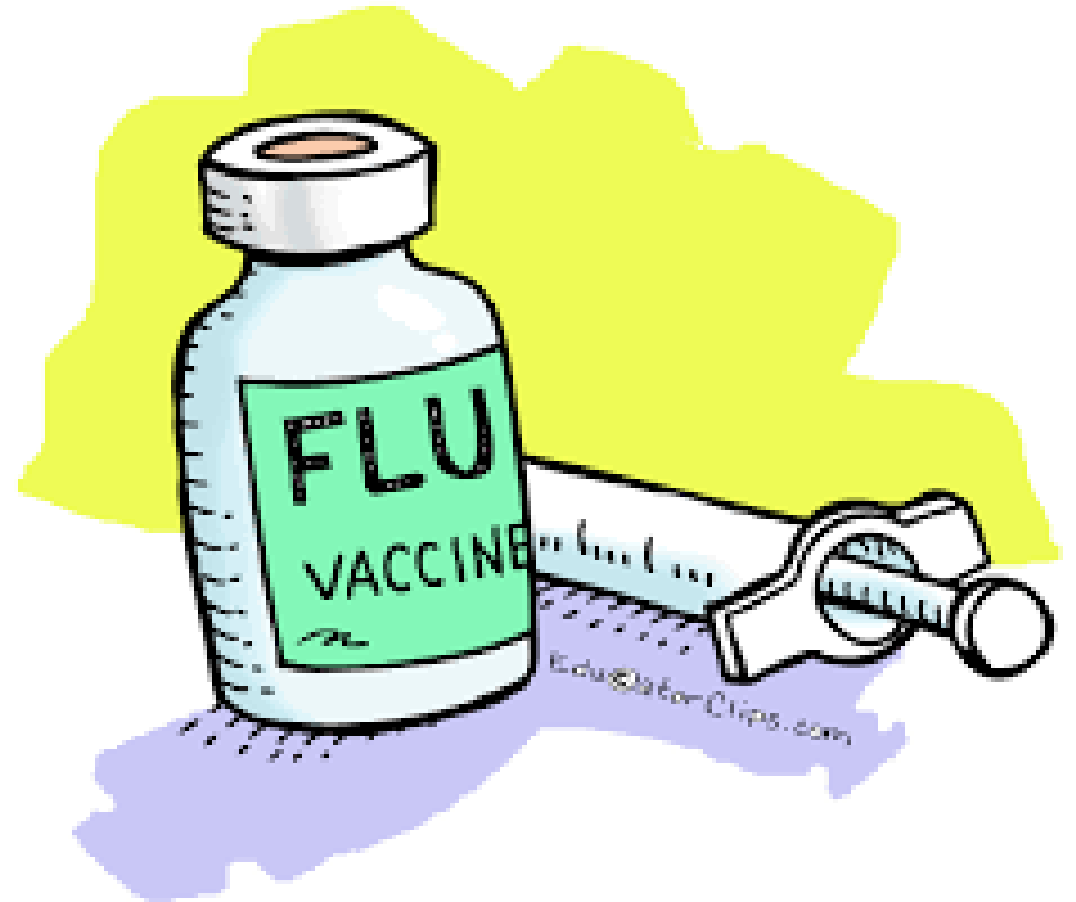


HEPATITIS B

Influenza Vaccine

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- Protects against a seasonal respiratory illness that causes fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, and other symptoms
- Vaccines are typically administered starting in September
- Everyone 6 months of age or older should be vaccinated
 - If you are over 65 years of age, you should receive a higher-dose flu vaccine to generate a stronger immune response
- Flu vaccines are typically administered in the muscle of your arm with a needle
 - Other non-injectable options may be available
- Refrigerate between 35°F and 46°F
- Consent is required

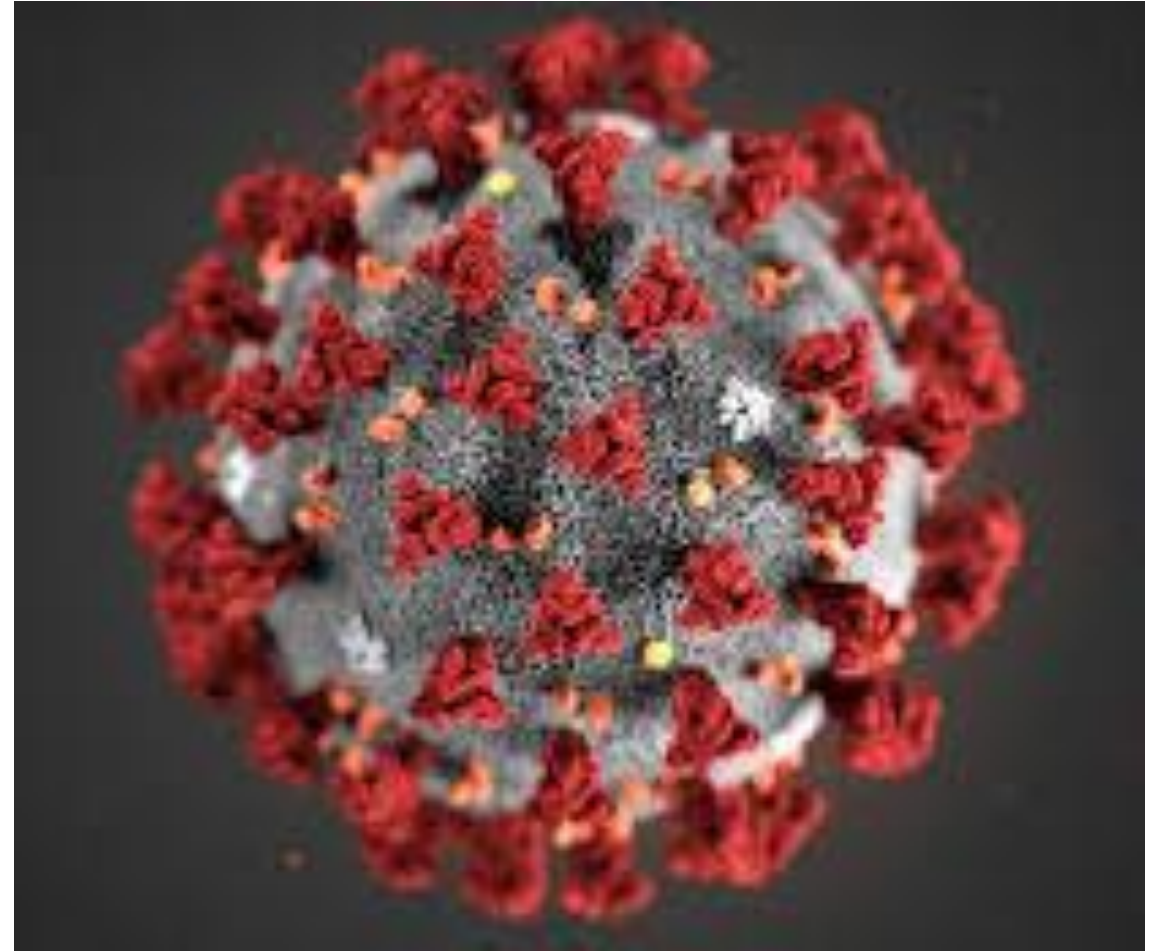


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COVID-19 Vaccine

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- Protects against a highly contagious respiratory illness caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus
- The CDC recommends staying up to date with vaccines produced by Pfizer, Moderna, or Novavax
- Everyone 6 months of age or older should be vaccinated
- Ages 5-64 years of age are considered updated when you get one updated COVID-19 vaccine



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COVID-19 Vaccine

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- For people ages 65 or older, a booster should be administered at least 4 months after the previous dose
 - This population is considered up to date when they have received two doses of the updated 2023 – 2024 COVID-19 vaccine
 - If you have not received a COVID-19 vaccine previously and choose to get Novavax, you should receive two doses followed by one additional dose of any updated vaccine
- Refrigerate between 36°F and 46°F
- Medical consent is not needed by federal law for the COVID-19 vaccine

Pneumonia Vaccine

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- Protects against an infection of *S. pneumoniae* bacteria that inflames the air sacs within the lungs
 - Often caused by first contracting influenza, the common cold, or RSV
- The CDC recommends PCV15 or PCV20 for adults who have never received a PCV and are
 - 65 and older
 - Ages 19 – 64 with certain risk conditions
- Many pneumococcal infections are mild, but they can often result in long-term complications such as brain damage, hearing loss, meningitis, and even death
- Refrigerate between 36°F and 46°F. Do not freeze
- Consent is required



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Shingles Vaccine

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- Protects against a viral infection caused by the varicella-zoster virus, also called herpes zoster
- Symptoms include a painful rash and blisters
- The CDC recommends everyone ages 50 and older receive two doses of Shingrix, separated by 2 to 6 months
 - You should still take a Shingrix vaccine if you have had shingles, had a Zostavax* vaccine, or had a varicella vaccine in the past
- Refrigerate between 36°F and 46°F. Do not freeze
- Consent is required

*Zostavax has been discontinued in the United States

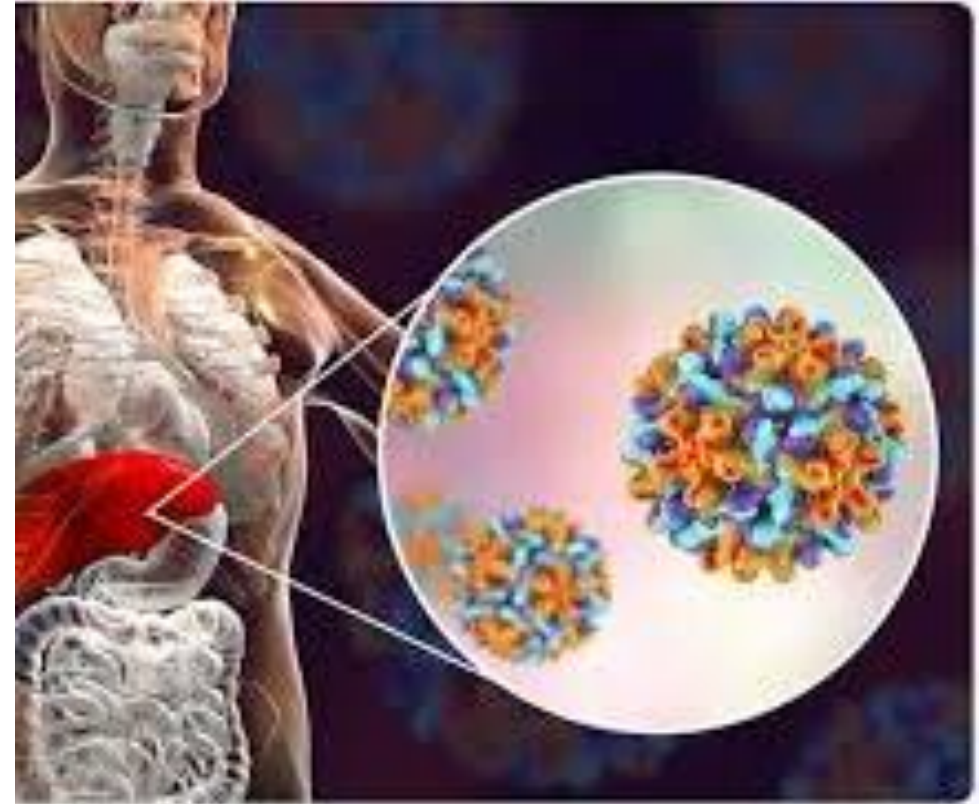


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Hepatitis B Vaccine

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- Protects against inflammation of the liver caused by the hepatitis B virus
- Transmitted through infected body fluids, such as blood and semen
- Infections can either be acute or develop into life-long chronic hepatitis B that can also cause liver damage, cirrhosis, and death
- Vaccinations can be administered to anyone (infants through elderly) but is highly recommended for ages 65 and older
- If you have received the 3-dose series, immunity will last for at least 20 years and most likely for life
- All healthcare workers are required to have received 3 properly spaced doses of the Hepatitis B vaccine
- Refrigerate between 36°F and 46°F
- Consent is required



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Barriers to Taking Vaccines

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Medical
complexities

Compromised
immune
systems

Political
polarization

Misinformation
on vaccines

Costs and
conveniences

Vaccine Management

- Facilities should have an effective vaccine management program in place
- Have updated vaccine policies (consult the CDC)
 - Ensure you have policies for if a staff member or resident refuses a vaccination
- Identify an individual who is responsible for vaccine management
- Appropriate handling and storage of vaccines
- Documentation should include
 - Manufacturer storage instructions, lot numbers, date given, route given
 - Vaccine Information Statements (VIS)
 - Recording of who consents and refuses various vaccines
 - Record and monitor temperature logs for vaccine storage
- Reporting and auditing of vaccine administration within your facility

Role of the Nurse

1

Nurses are the primary administrators of vaccines within their facility

2

Have the responsibility to educate residents on vaccines so that they can make an educated decision

3

Actively advocate for vaccine administration to protect residents, family members, and staff

4

Document who has received particular vaccines for accurate record keeping and future administrations

Conclusion



Elderly residents in long-term care facilities typically bear a disproportionate level of infectious diseases, making vaccination that much more important



Congregate living can increase the risk of transmission, but ensuring that residents and staff have been vaccinated helps to mitigate those risks



While vaccinations continue to be a difficult subject at this time, educating others with accurate information so that they can make informed decisions continues to be a crucial effort

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