



**Immunizations &  
the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress  
April 13, 2017**

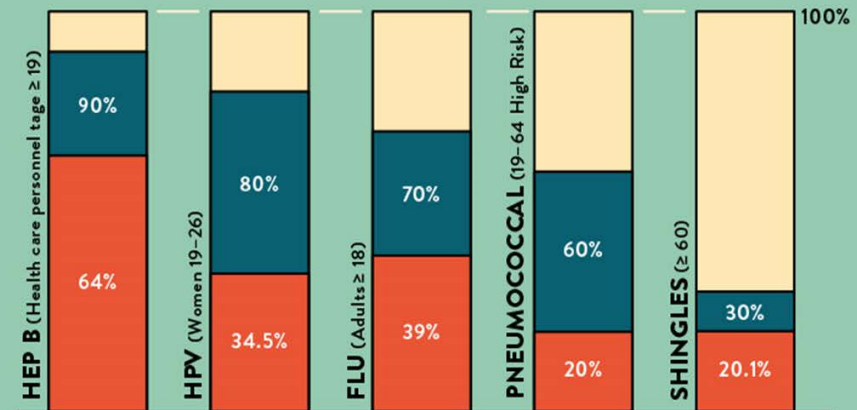
# Adult immunization rates remain low despite interest from many

- **AVAC began in 2015.** AVAC is a multi-stakeholder organization on adult immunization issues.
- **AVAC brings together a number of organizations under one umbrella** working collectively to bring necessary *federal policy changes* to increase adult vaccination rates.

Adult  
Vaccination  
Rates Are  
Low

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ADULT VACCINE  
ACCESS COALITION

Adult vaccination rates remain low in the US and far below Healthy People 2020 targets



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# We are a diverse group of...

Health Care Providers

Public Health

Pharmacy

Patient, Consumer, and  
Minority Health Groups

Vaccine Innovators

Registry



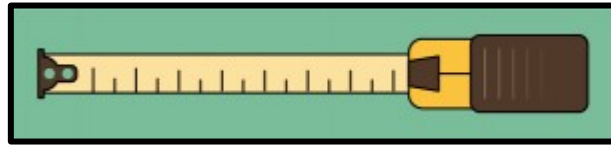
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# Changing the adult immunization policy landscape

1 **Build**



2 **Measure**



3 **Access**



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# Protecting Vaccine Access in Any Systematic Changes to Health Reform

- Essential Health Benefits
- Prevention and Public Health Fund
- Medicaid Reform
- Activities
  - Meetings
  - Materials
  - Communications

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HEALTH REFORM FACT SHEET March 2017

## Health and Economic Benefits of Adult Immunizations



As recently as the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, conditions such as polio, measles, rubella and diphtheria were still common, striking thousands ill and taking the lives of hundreds more.

The development of safe and effective vaccines has revolutionized medicine and turned once prevalent conditions into mostly a distant memory.

The key to maintaining and building on these advances is constant vigilance. Continued access to immunizations for children, adolescents and adults is essential to preserving the progress we've made against vaccine-preventable conditions and strengthening our ability to address emerging health threats in the vaccine research pipeline such as respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), norovirus, Ebola and Zika.

Every year, more than 50,000 adults die from vaccine-preventable diseases and thousands more suffer serious health problems. At-risk populations, including seniors and people with chronic illness, are at greater risk of complications and death.

The Adult Vaccine Access Coalition (AVAC) urges Congress to protect coverage of cost-effective and life-saving vaccines and provide adequate funding for essential immunisation infrastructure.

Adult vaccination rates remain low in the U.S. and far below Healthy People 2020 targets

|  | Adult vaccination rate | Healthy People 2020 target |
|--|------------------------|----------------------------|
| HEP B (1 health care personnel age ≥ 19) | not met                | not met                    |
| HPV (Women 19-26)                        | not met                | not met                    |
| FLU (Adults ≥ 65)                        | not met                | not met                    |
| PNEUMOCOCCAL (19-64 high risk)           | not met                | not met                    |
| SHINGLES (≥ 60)                          | not met                | not met                    |

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# Eliminating Financial Barriers


- Educating on discrepancy between B & D
- Expand first dollar coverage of vaccines to Medicare Part D
- Enhance provider billing for Part D vaccines
- Improve vaccine information for Medicare beneficiaries.
- Activities:
  - Meetings
  - Regulatory
  - Shingles bill

Out-of-Pocket Costs Influence Medicare Vaccination Rates

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Immunization rates for vaccines covered under Medicare Part B are often much higher than vaccines covered under Medicare Part D

 **MEDICARE PART B**  
Out-of-pocket expense: \$0

 **MEDICARE PART D**  
Average out-of-pocket expense: \$14–\$102 per vaccine, depending on plan



Sources: [http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/ss/ss6501a1.htm?s\\_cid=ss6501a1\\_w](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/ss/ss6501a1.htm?s_cid=ss6501a1_w)  
[http://go.avalere.com/acton/attachment/12909/f-0297/1/-/-/-/20160217\\_Medicare%20Vaccines%20Coverage%20Paper.pdf](http://go.avalere.com/acton/attachment/12909/f-0297/1/-/-/-/20160217_Medicare%20Vaccines%20Coverage%20Paper.pdf)

\* Including Pertussis

# Prioritizing Funding for Immunization-Related Activities at HHS

- For FY 18 is working in support of
  - Immunization Program at CDC (\$650m)
  - The National Vaccine Program Office at HHS (\$6.4m)
- Activities:
  - Meetings
  - Support letters
  - Funding requests
  - Report language



# Getting out the Message

- Website: [www.adultvaccinesnow.org](http://www.adultvaccinesnow.org)
- Twitter: @AVACNow
- Story Form:  
<http://www.adultvaccinesnow.org/vaccine-story/>



AVAC @AVACNow

Great questions from our audience about adult #vaccine access!

#AdultVaxNow

[pic.twitter.com/LNZTJyQW7e](http://pic.twitter.com/LNZTJyQW7e)



AVAC @AVACNow

Vaccines save lives & prevent hospitalizations. How much \$ could we save if people got #fluvax? #NIVW2015 @cdcflu

[pic.twitter.com/RizkZOKjNK](http://pic.twitter.com/RizkZOKjNK)

# AVAC

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**Every year approximately 50,000 adults  
die from vaccine preventable diseases in  
the United States.**

**Let's change that.**

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