What percent of your patients have gotten their flu shot this year? What percent of your teens have completed the HPV series? There’s a new report in the The Vermont Immunization Registry can assess vaccine coverage rates at your practice, and the IMR will run those numbers for you in just a few seconds.

**Practice View Vaccine Coverage**

The Practice View: Vaccine Coverage report provides you with four useful tools. The first three provide vaccine coverage assessment of an expected group of immunizations for a particular age group, based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee of Immunization Practices.

When you select Practice View Vaccine Coverage, you see the prompt screen below. What is new is the fourth assessment: Vaccine Group Assessment. This report allows you to run vaccine coverage numbers for any vaccine “group” for any age group that you wish. See Below.
**What is a Vaccine Group?**

Sometimes a vaccine protects against one specific antigen, like hepatitis B for instance, and sometimes it protects against multiple antigens. Twinrix, for instance, protects against both hepatitis A and hepatitis B. Assessing a vaccine group means measuring vaccine coverage against the individual antigen, regardless of the vaccine formulation given.

Some vaccines, like influenza, come in a lot of different formulations but they all protect against the group Influenza. When you measure coverage in your practice, you want to know what percent of your patients are protected against influenza, regardless of the formulation.

**Selecting a Group**

When you select Vaccine Group Assessment, a new prompt screen appears as below. Use the down arrow to the right of the Vaccine Group selection box to choose a series. The age range will pre-populate with a set of logically appropriate dates for that group. We recommend that you narrow that range to explore a smaller cohort. For instance, to assess flu coverage, you might adjust your age range to look at persons 65 years and older, or under age 4. See Below.
Generating the Report

This part is easy. Just choose Create Report and the IMR will calculate your rate. Remember that the IMR calculates your rate based on the persons associated with your practice. If you need help managing your patients, please see the support one pager: That’s Not My Patient.

If you would like to run a recall report for the persons in your practice who are not up to date, please see the support one pager: Not Up to Date.
Special considerations for the DTP Group

There are several immunizations that protect against a set of three antigens: diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis. At different ages, different formulations are recommended: young children receive DTaP, older people generally receive Td or Tdap. Please use special care in trying to assess this group in persons older than 25 or so. The forecasting algorithm behind the IMR requires a minimum of three doses of DTP containing vaccine for a person to be “up to date.”

The IMR has been in place since 2004, older persons often do not have their full history in the system. A 60-year-old may have received a dose of Td and Tdap and had doses of Td and DTP years ago but appear not up to date because they do not have three doses recorded in the system. We do not recommend that you use this group assessment currently for persons over 25 years. You can use this tool to assess for ages 25 and younger.

Other Questions

For questions, please contact the IMR support line at (888) 688-4667