

# The Second National Immunization Congress

**Sarah Duggan Goldstein, MPH and L.J Tan, MS, PhD**  
**American Medical Association**



# 2007 Immunization Congress

- February of 2007, co sponsored by AMA and AAP
- Engaged leaders in both adult and pediatric immunization to encourage participation from diverse stakeholders
- Addressed financing, access and infrastructure barriers

# 2007 Congress Task Forces

- Public Private Financing, 317, Underinsured populations, Adult Immunizations, Adolescent Immunizations, and “Quick win”
- Spurred studies on challenges associated with vaccine purchase, administration and reimbursement and NVAC pediatric financing recommendations
- Increased awareness and commitment to adult vaccine issues
- Expanded the AAP pediatric business case for adults with input from AHIP and other stakeholders
- Supported and encouraged the work of the 317 coalition
- Issued Adolescent roadmap guidelines

# 2010 Immunization Congress

- Approximately 85 participants, representing vaccine manufacturers, providers, pharmacy, public health and payers
- Co-Sponsored by AMA, AAP and ASTHO
- Encouraged discussion, networking and feedback, particularly with changes impending from implementation of PPACA
- Agenda focused on public and private financing, with additional focus on adult infrastructure challenges and continued adolescent gaps

# Immunization Congress Goals:

## 2007

## 2010

- Understand the issues facing all vaccine providers in the United States
  - Receive input from multiple sources
  - For adult stakeholders – learn from the pediatric model to improve adult coverage
  - For pediatric stakeholders, act before rates drop!
  - Facilitate public and private cooperation
- Explore implementation options for NVAC, AAP, IDSA and AMA vaccine financing recommendations.
  - Identify non-financial barriers (e.g., infrastructure) to adult and adolescent immunizations
  - Highlight lessons learned from pediatrics to apply to the adolescent and adult worlds
  - Develop an action plan to maximize the opportunities created from health care reform

# Theme Identification

- Consensus driven
- Focusing on 2-3 themes from each session
- Action oriented
- Dynamic

# Preliminary Theme Identification: Adult Infrastructure

- Part B vs. Part D
- VFC/underinsured for adults
- HIT for adults/registries
- Sufficient venues/providers of adult vaccine
- Increasing adult patient education and demand for vaccines
- Motivating and educating private sector adult providers
- Engaging the public health system to take on adult immunization as a priority

# Next Steps

- Survey of Congress participants to identify themes
- Formation of task forces for each set of themes
- Congress participants will identify which task forces they would like to assist with
- Development of action plan for each task force

# Next Steps

- Meeting proceedings submitted for publication in *Vaccine*
- Publication of Full Meeting Summary
- Development of website for information and material dissemination



# Preliminary Theme Identification: Private Financing

- Creating sound reimbursement methodology- are percentages really the way to go?
- What other data is needed?
- Cost as a barrier to entry for adult providers
- Cost as barrier to introduction of new vaccines in pediatric practices
- Payment for increased time spent counseling patients or compensating for a change of mind/loss of that vaccine
- Access ensured by health system reform is not the same adequate payment- how do we ensure payment for both cost of vaccines and vaccine administration is adequate?
- Education of new combination vaccine codes in 2011

# Preliminary Theme Identification: Public Financing

- Improving Medicaid vaccination reimbursement rates to incentivize states to include preventive services coverage for non-elderly beneficiaries
- Financing stream specifically for adult vaccines, perhaps similar to VFC
  - Some concern over unintended consequences especially with ACA in place?
- Vaccine counseling codes

# Preliminary Theme Identification: The Adolescent Gap

- School located vaccination venues (including billing and reimbursement)
- Other community located vaccination venues
- Improving missed opportunities and awareness at the provider office
- Alternative models for encouraging adolescent preventive care
- Increasing demand by raising awareness among teens and their parents/caregivers