

# NURSES ON THE FRONT LINE: MODELS FOR 2020 FLU & COVID-19 VACCINES

## COVID-19 VACCINE IMPLEMENTATION MICROPLANNING - KEY COMPONENTS

### VACCINE AVAILABILITY/LIMITED SUPPLY

- Pre-determine priority populations and order they will receive vaccinations
- Priority and order of staff receiving the vaccine
- Process for administering and completing a multi-dose vaccine series

### LOGISTICAL AND EQUIPMENT NEEDS

- Need for additional storage freezers and refrigerators
  - Where will you store them? Do you need partners to help?
- Setting up drive-thru clinics? Pods with floor warmers?
  - What equipment, locations, medical supplies including PPE and needles, are needed to safely administer vaccines to people sitting in cars?
  - Know how you will practice infection control
  - Have tents that can withstand range of weather conditions
- Prepare for equipment, needle, and other materials shortages

### COVID-19 VACCINE DATA COLLECTION, MONITORING AND REPORTING

- Prepare standing orders, templates, and/or EHR data entry well in advance
- Have monitoring systems in place (i.e. SE Monitoring and Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System)

- Monitor for needle stick injuries
- Track communities/neighborhoods for vaccine acceptance and rejection to inform outreach and education needs
- Survey patients for satisfaction and experience getting the COVID-19 vaccine

### PATIENT EDUCATION TO INCREASE VACCINE ACCEPTANCE; REDUCE VACCINE HESITANCY

- Start early
- Understand your patient populations' beliefs, perspectives, myths, and knowledge about the COVID-19 vaccine
- Know and work the media (traditional and social media) that your patient population reads, follows, and trusts and work with them to disseminate accurate vaccine information

### STAFF TRAINING, NEEDS AND SUPPORT

- Keep a pulse on how your staff are doing such as managing stress and responsibilities
- Plan for staff burnout and sickness
- Keep staff informed, share data on the vaccine, and communicate often with transparency
- Be their advocate and their truth speaker
- Ongoing professional development is key. Involve your staff because they can think through what they need more of and what they are experts in.
- Identify and takes actions to reduce potential safety issues like needle stick injuries

SOURCE: The information shared in this document is compiled from presentations given by Mary Blankson, Chief Nursing Officer, Community Health Center, Inc., Nate Peña, Registered Nurse, Esperanza Health Centers and Anthony Fortenberry, Chief Nursing Officer, Callen-Lorde Community Health Center during NACHC's Nurses on the Front Line: Models for 2020 Flu & COVID-19 Vaccines Webinar held on October 15, 2020. A link to the recorded webinar can be found [here](#).

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## FLU VACCINE 2020 - LESSONS LEARNED

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- **START EARLY** and be consistent and frequent with patient education - sharing the facts, and dispelling myths, and addressing vaccine hesitancy
- **BE PROACTIVE** vs reactive with your outreach and communication
- **CONTINUE TO EDUCATE** yourself and your clinical care teams on the COVID-19 vaccine development—track the vaccine science and the race to market
- **KNOW YOUR DATA**
  - Track, compare and create dashboards
  - Know what strategies are driving vaccinations and which ones are not working
- **ASSESS STAFFING NEEDS**
  - Ensure you have the right level of coverage and support. This may mean getting creative with roles and responsibilities, utilizing staff's abilities and scopes of practice to their best potential.
  - Be prepared for potential large volumes of COVID-19 vaccinations
- **BE AT THE TABLE**
  - Share your flu campaign data, success, and challenges
  - Get in front of state and local community and health leaders and your own health center leaders; your voice is important and needed

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