

# **Paying for Adult Vaccines: Opportunities and Strategies**

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# The Challenge

- Adult Hep B vaccination is crucial in preventing outbreaks and safeguarding public health.
- It is essential to identify strategies to ensure equitable access to adult hepatitis B vaccines, especially for underserved populations.
- Address geographical disparities and to promote vaccine equity.
- Identify funding and partnerships to support adult hepatitis B vaccinations in your jurisdiction.
- Learn about successful programs throughout the country and what they have done to increase availability of adult hep B vaccines.

# Payment Options for Adult Vaccines

- Insurance Coverage
- Vaccine Assistance Programs
- Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)
- Workplace Vaccination Programs
- Publicly Funded Vaccination Clinics
- Public-Private Partnerships
- Outreach and Education

# Vaccine Assistance Programs

- **Vaccines for Adults (VFA) Program**, operated by the CDC, this program provides resources, recommendations, and strategies for healthcare providers to improve adult vaccination rates. It offers guidance on vaccine recommendations, billing and coding, and patient education.
- **Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program**: Although primarily focused on pediatric vaccines, the VFC program covers some vaccines for eligible adults who meet specific criteria. Health departments can work to expand access to adult vaccines through this program.
- **The Section 317 Immunization Program** of the Public Health Service Act provides critical funding for vaccine purchase and distribution. While historically focused on childhood immunizations, Section 317 funds can also be utilized to support adult vaccination initiatives. (See more info below)
- **Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs**: Some pharmaceutical companies offer patient assistance programs that provide vaccines, including hepatitis B, at reduced or no cost to eligible individuals. State health departments can partner with manufacturers to facilitate access for adults in need.

## **Section 317 Funding**

- Section 317 of the Public Health Service Act plays a pivotal role in adult vaccination, offering funding for vaccine purchase and distribution. It targets uninsured or underinsured adults and high-risk populations, supporting efforts to improve immunization rates.

# Strategies for Increasing Vaccination Rates

- Partnering with FQHCs
- Establishing workplace vaccination programs
- Forming public-private partnerships
- Engaging in outreach and education
- Utilizing telehealth and mobile clinics
- Regular data collection and analysis

# **Data Collection and Analysis**

- Ongoing monitoring of vaccine coverage and identifying barriers are essential for tailoring strategies to the community's needs. This ensures the effectiveness of vaccination campaigns.

# Conclusion and Call to Action

- Adopting the outlined strategies can significantly improve hepatitis B vaccination rates among adults. It's crucial for health departments to implement, monitor, and refine these approaches for better public health outcomes.



# Examples of State Programs

- States like Georgia, West Virginia, California, Maine, Massachusetts, New York, Philadelphia, Texas, and Washington have implemented successful adult hepatitis B vaccination programs, leveraging various funding and partnership models.
- We would like to learn more about your program!

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# HIV PREP CLINIC

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[SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT](#) >

University of Utah Health's PrEP services, including the following:

- Testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections (STIs)
- PrEP case manager navigation
- Medical management
- Lab services
- Medication for people who have a higher chance of contracting HIV
- HIV risk reduction education
- All services are FREE for patients who don't have health insurance.

University donates space and doctors donate time

Labs and coordination funded through CDC HIV Prevention funds.

# Hep B and PrEP

People with risk factors, regardless of age, should be vaccinated for Hep B, including:

- People with current or past injection drug use
- People who share needles, or sexual contacts of people with known HBV infection
- People currently or formerly incarcerated in a jail, prison, or other detention setting
- People with HIV infection
- People with current or past hepatitis C virus infection
- Men who have sex with men
- People with current or past sexually transmitted infections, or multiple sex partners

# Adult high risk (AHB) initiative

- Initiative formerly known as Adult Hep B Initiative.
- All 19+ year olds who do not have insurance (uninsured) should be screened for hepatitis B vaccination and administered a full hepatitis B vaccine series. T
- The continuance of screening for hepatitis B is still required prior to administration of any product.
- Patients receiving hepatitis b screening may also receive other vaccines offered within the AHB Initiative, including hepatitis A, HPV, PCV20, Tdap and shingles.

# Successful Partnership

- Connected U of U Free PrEP Clinic and Utah DHHS Immunization program
- Vaccine resources for PrEP Clinic
- Immunization Program effectively utilizes its funding and meets its objectives.

# Resources

- National Adult Influenza and Immunization Summit: Several resources including “Quick Guide to Adult Vaccine Messaging”; “Tip Sheet on New Adult Vaccine Recommendations and Implementation Resources” and, “Strategies to Address Policy Barriers to Adult Immunizations in Federally Qualified Health Centers.”
- Hepatitis B Prevention Mandates: A list of each state's hepatitis B vaccine laws. This list is regularly updated by the Immunization Action Coalition as new laws are passed.
- Hepatitis A Prevention Mandates: A list of each state's hepatitis A vaccine laws, which is also regularly updated by the Immunization Action Coalition.
- Vaccinating Adults: A Step-by-Step Guide provides practical information in an easy-to-use
- format to help you implement or enhance adult immunization services in a healthcare setting.
- CDC - Adult Vaccination Information for Healthcare and Public Health Professionals
- CDC - Information for State Immunization Managers
- CDC - Immunization Program Operations Manual (IPOM)) provides comprehensive information on program requirements, guidelines, and reporting expectations.
- HHS - National Adult Immunization Plan (NAIP) provides an overview of actions needed to be undertaken by federal and nonfederal partners to protect public health and achieve optimal prevention of infectious diseases and their consequences through vaccination of adults.
- The 317 Coalition is a resource for member organizations to share data and information about the needs of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) national immunization program for advocacy purposes.

# Contact Information

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