

CAHPS® Tips:

Pneumococcal Vaccination Status for Older Adults (PNU)

MEASURE DESCRIPTION

The percentage of patients 65 years of age and older who have ever received one or more pneumococcal vaccinations.

This is self-reported by patients and collected annually by CMS using the Medicare Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers Systems (CAHPS) survey.

SURVEY QUESTION

Have you ever had one or more pneumonia shots? Two shots are usually given in a person's lifetime and these are different from a flu shot. It is also called the pneumococcal vaccine.

TIPS TO INCREASE PNEUMOCOCCAL VACCINATIONS

- Use the State immunization registry.
- Review a patient's immunization record before every visit and administer needed vaccinations.
- Educate patients on the importance of having at least one pneumococcal vaccination for adults 65 years or older. Patients are more likely to agree with vaccinations when supported by the provider.
- Turn on reminders/prompts for the pneumococcal vaccination, if on EMR. Review vaccination status in EMR.
- Flag the charts of all patients needing the pneumococcal vaccination with a brightly colored sheet, if not on EMR.
- Review with new patients any vaccinations that may have been given previously. Include these on the patients' vaccination record even if your office did not provide the vaccination.

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