

Prevention Practice

LEADING THE WAY TO BETTER HEALTH

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Prevention Practice?

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March Awareness Month: Colorectal Cancer

According to the American Cancer Society, more lives are lost each year to colorectal cancer than to breast cancer and AIDS combined. At least 60% of deaths caused by colorectal cancer can be avoided with the proper screening.

[Learn more...](#)

Greetings!

Welcome to our first issue of ***Prevention Practice***, a quarterly newsletter designed to share prevention education resources and best practices.

Please forward this newsletter to team members whom you believe would find this information of interest. We welcome your feedback at PreventionPractice@vhqc.org.

Regards,

Letha Fisher
Director

Pamela Delo
Project Manager

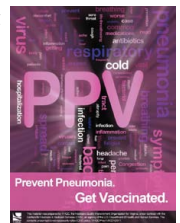
VHQC Prevention Team

Prevention Mouse Pads Arriving Soon

Soon, your practice will receive mouse pads promoting the importance of preventing Pneumococcal pneumonia. The message "Prevent Pneumonia. Get Vaccinated." aims to promote patient education on both the disease and vaccine, Pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV).

While anyone can get Pneumococcal disease, some are at greater risk, including those over the age of 65. To help protect against this disease, VHQC recommends patients age 65 and older receive the PPSV, which protects against 23 types of Pneumococcal bacteria, including those most likely to cause serious disease.

[Learn more...](#)



Best Practices: EHR



Drug Safety: Anticholinergic Burden

To raise awareness of drug-drug interactions and potentially inappropriate medications in older adults, VHQC is launching a statewide drug safety campaign. A recent focus has been medications with anticholinergic (ACH) properties in older adults.

Learn more...

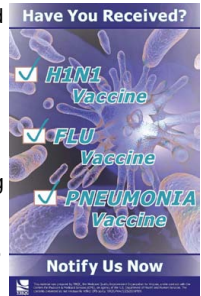


To date, the 2009-2010 Influenza season has produced lower rates of Influenza-related illness. However, over the upcoming weeks, Virginia will enter into peak flu season, making it imperative to continue documenting vaccine history for your patients into the EHR flow chart.

Below are two examples of success when implementing improvement processes related to the EHR:

- One participating practice demonstrated a 200% relative improvement rate for capturing vaccine history in the EHR. They aggressively promoted vaccination as part of a preventable disease program and documented each event in their flow chart for reporting purposes.
- Another practice noted a 500% relative improvement rate for colorectal cancer (CRC) screening. They utilized key messaging that screening saves lives and reminded patients of the importance of screening. Additionally, they ensured patients' complete medical histories were documented in the EHR.

Congratulations to both of these exceptional practices for their hard work! We look forward to sharing other success stories like these in upcoming editions of **Prevention Practice**, and encourage you to submit your best practices to PreventionPractice@vhqc.org.



Let Us Know...

The VHQC Prevention Team wants your feedback!

Email us today at PreventionPractice@vhqc.org and let us know how we are doing.

If we can meet your needs with future issues or provide you with additional resources, let us know. Your comments are always welcome!