Adult Immunization . . .
We’ve got to do better!

Following is a snapshot of 2010 U.S. adult vaccination coverage for five routinely recommended vaccines:

- Among adults age 19–64 years for whom Tdap status specifically could be assessed, Tdap vaccination coverage was 8.2%.¹
- Among adults age 60 years and older, zoster (shingles) vaccination coverage was 14.4%.¹
- Among women age 19–26 years, reported receipt of 1 or more doses of HPV vaccine was 20.7%.¹
- Among adults age 18 years and older, influenza vaccination coverage during the 2010–11 influenza season was 40.5%.²
- Among adults age 65 years and older, pneumococcal vaccination coverage was 59.7% overall, with notable racial and ethnic disparities. Non-Hispanic whites of this age group had higher vaccination coverage (63.5%) compared with Hispanics (39%), non-Hispanic blacks (46.2%), and non-Hispanic Asians (48.2%).¹
- Annually, vaccine-preventable diseases claim the lives of approximately 50,000 U.S. adults. Obviously, healthcare providers need to substantially improve adult vaccination to reduce the serious consequences of disease.

- Successful vaccination programs need to
  - educate potential vaccine recipients
  - develop publicity to promote vaccination
  - increase access to vaccination services in medical offices and complementary settings such as workplaces and pharmacies
  - use reminder-recall systems
  - implement standing orders programs for vaccination
  - assess practice-level vaccination rates and provide feedback to staff members.

For more information on adult vaccination rates please visit [www.immunize.org](http://www.immunize.org). For information on local immunization clinics, visit the Public Health Nurses webpage at [www.edisonnj.org](http://www.edisonnj.org) or call them directly at 732-248-7285.