# Impact of a campus-based flu shot clinic on vaccination rates

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#### Overview



- Describe the campus-based flu shot clinic
- Briefly review literature re: choosing to be vaccinated, or not to be vaccinated, for influenza
- Methods and results of the current study
- Limitations of the current study
- Implications and next steps

# Objectives



- Describe three reasons for non-participation in a campus-based flu clinic.
- Identify strategies to increase flu vaccination on a college campus.

#### The Flu Shot Clinic



#### Flu shot clinic on campus

- Started in 2013
- Senior nursing students organize the event with faculty supervision
- Vaccine provided by external organizations; participants must bring insurance information or pay \$25 fee
- Between 400 and 600 vaccinations given during the 8-hour event (575 in 2018)

#### Advertised across campus, using multiple methods

- university announcements, social media
- signs in classroom and residential buildings
- student radio station and newspaper stories
- Nursing student outreach: their activities on campus and "tabling"

## The Flu Shot Clinic



- Evaluations of the clinic
  - Satisfaction surveys of participants
    - How they learned about the clinic
    - Why they came for the flu shot
    - Data not saved from prior years
  - More than 95% of participants who completed a survey in 2018 were "very satisfied" with the clinic.

## The Flu Shot Clinic

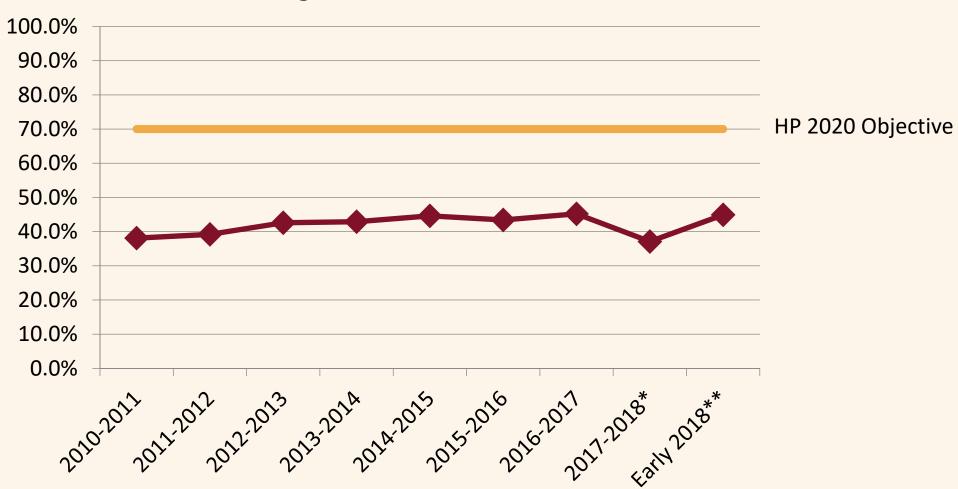


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#### Flu Vaccination: Adults



#### % Adults receiving seasonal influenza vaccination



Data reported on HP 2020 website are from NHIS, available through the 2016-2017 season.

<sup>\*</sup>CDC estimate based on BRFSS alone

<sup>\*\*</sup>CDC estimate based on National Immunization Survey-Flu

## Flu Vaccination: College Students



- American College Health Association's "Healthy Campus 2020"
  - Baseline of 39.9% in 2010 (National College Health Assessment)
  - Goal is 43.9%
- 2016 report by National Foundation for Infectious Diseases noted vaccination rates between eight and 39 percent.
  - Third Level Bullet
  - Second Level Bullet
- Barriers to flu vaccination in college students
  - Believe myths about vaccine (Benjamin & Barr, 2016; Rogers, Barr, & Benjamin, 2018)
  - Low perceived susceptibility (Bednarczyk et al., 2015; Benjamin & Barr, 2016; Rogers, Barr, & Benjamin, 2018)
  - Unmotivated (Bednarczyk, et al., 2015)

## Flu Vaccination: Faculty and Staff



- Qualitative study of university employees (Stedman-Smith, Kingsbury, Dubois & Grey, 2016)
  - Low perceived susceptibility
  - Low perceived effectiveness of vaccine
  - Believed vaccination myths
  - Financial and time barriers
  - Dislike/fear of injections

## Methods



- On-line survey of university students, faculty, and staff
  - Invitation sent via emails from deans of each college and directors of administrative divisions
  - Intention to send one month after clinic; actually sent two months after
  - Intention to send reminder email one week after first; no reminder sent

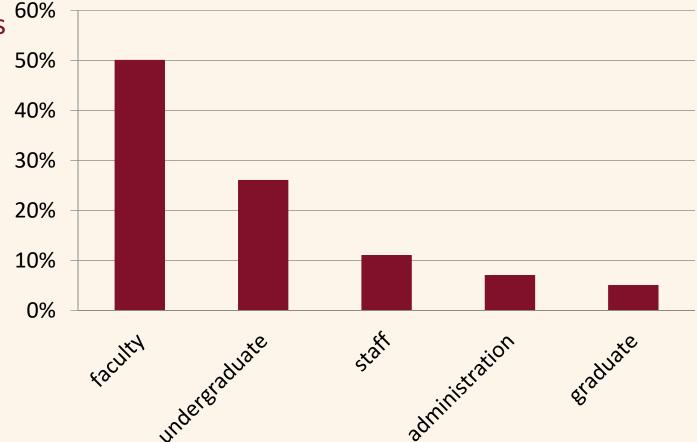
#### Survey questions

- Vaccination status
- Intention to be vaccinated
- Usual practice
- Reasons for choosing/not choosing vaccination
- Where obtained vaccination
- Reasons for choosing that location



- Low # responses: 115; unknown response rate
  - Difficulty in sending initial invitation and inability to send reminder
  - Unsure if all Dean's offices and division directors sent the invitation
  - Several university surveys and survey requests for PA & DNP projects sent at same time







- 70% of respondents had received a flu vaccination
  - Ranged from 81% (faculty) to 33% (graduate student)
- Of those who had not yet received a flu vaccination, 44% intended to be vaccinated
  - Ranged from 60% (administration) to 20% (graduate student)
- Vaccination practice

How often do you get a		Graduate			Undergraduate	
seasonal flu shot?	Faculty	student	Administration	Staff	student	Total
%Always or Almost						
Always	76%	50%	75%	69%	60%	70%
% About Half or Some						
Years	10%	33%	13%	15%	13%	13%
% Never	14%	17%	13%	15%	27%	17%



- Of those who had been or intended to be vaccinated, 40% were vaccinated on campus
  - Ranged from 67% (administration) to 0% (graduate student)
- Other locations included
  - Provider's office (29%)
  - Pharmacy (18%)
  - Work (10%)
- Most important reason for choosing location
  - Easy to get to (61%)
  - Already there for another reason (30%)
  - Other (6%)



#### Reasons for choosing vaccination

Don't want to be sick: 58%

Had flu before: 22%

• Required: 6%

#### Reasons for choosing not to be vaccinated

• Preservatives are harmful: 19%

• Gives you the flu: 13%

• Healthy/don't need it: 13%

• Flu is not serious: 6%

• Unmotivated: 28%

• Unsure: 6%

• Time: 6%

• Ineffective: 1%

# Implications



- Findings on this campus similar to other studies
- Opportunities to provide education about flu vaccination
- Research suggestions for improving vaccination:
  - Competition among departments/majors
  - Major prize drawing
  - Appeals based on need to protect others

# Next Steps



- Repeat the study
  - Include other methods of data collection
  - Use prize incentive
- Add new methods of communication
- Add incentives beyond drawings for participating on campus