Flu Crew: Community-Student Partnerships to Deliver Influenza Vaccines During a Pandemic

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Introduction

- Flu Crew is a student run initiative that trains Stanford School of Medicine preclinical students to administer influenza vaccines.
- Influenza vaccination reduces hospitalization and death among susceptible populations.
- In Fall 2020, Flu Crew worked with community partners to provide safe, free and easy access to the flu vaccine during the COVID19 pandemic to avoid further overwhelming the healthcare system.

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Community Partners

1. Monterey Mushroom Farms
2. Brisbane Lion’s Club
3. Salvation Army
4. Belmont Library
5. Half Moon Bay Library
6. Christ the King
7. Our Lady of Refuge Churches
8. Mayfair Community Center in San Jose
9. Stanford Vaden Health Center
10. Stanford University Occupational Health Center

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Quality Improvement Pilot

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Results

- Patients answered with the same accuracy without flyer.
- In the future, a volunteer would need to help with debriefing the influenza vaccine information.

COVID19 Vaccination Efforts

Given the success of Flu Crew’s partnerships with diverse community partners, we are extending our efforts to assist in providing COVID19 vaccines. Student vaccinators have already received COVID19 vaccination training on Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson and Johnson vaccines.

Trained volunteers are being matched to community clinics in need of more vaccinators. Some of our current and developing partnerships include:

- Roots Community Health Center & Clinic
- Sunrise Middle School in San Jose
- San Mateo County Clinic in Pescadero

Conclusion

Continued trust, careful planning and frequent communication between Flu Crew and its partners enables successful delivery of vaccines. Many thanks to our community partners, faculty supervisors and committed volunteers without whom this work would not be possible.