Conversation 2: Round 2: How to Enhance Cooperation Between State-Level Immunization and Cancer Control Programs to Strengthen HPV Vaccination Efforts

Facilitator: Tamika Felder, Cervivor

Resource Person: Bethany Kintigh, RN, BSN, Bureau of Immunization and TB, Iowa Department of Public Health

**Practical Actions**

- Provide incentives to providers for meeting goals
- State level policy
  - Mandated immunization as well as strict/positive implementation
  - State facilitation of free HPV vaccinations
- Know the partners (departments, organizations, coalitions)
- Use active, vocal, influential voices such as patients and survivors as champions
- Create messaging to address all the different angles of HPV vaccination

**Briefly describe the current level of cooperation on HPV vaccination efforts between immunization and cancer control programs in your state.**

- CDC: Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for breast and cervical cancer
- Puerto Rico
  - Working to make HPV vaccination mandatory for children aged 11-12 years old by August 2018
- Virginia
  - Started with a state task force, and then began working with American Cancer Society. This collaboration brought in stakeholders (ex. Providers, Parents, Federally Qualified Health Centers)
  - Free public screening license for “Someone You Love” video in the state of Virginia
- North Dakota
  - Has an Immunization/Cancer Control Task Force
  - Provides funding to organizations with direct resources
- Guam
  - Task Force includes several stakeholders
  - HPV Vaccination Initiative
• Maryland
  o HPV Task Force is an internal group a part of the Maryland Department of Public Health
  o Multiple departments hosted the HPV Symposium
  o Maryland has an external HPV work group composed of doctors, American Cancer Society, Merck, etc.
• Iowa
  o Collaboration between immunization and comprehensive cancer centers
  o Bringing immunization to cancer plan

Identify the factors which facilitate that cooperation and the barriers which discourage that cooperation

• FACILITATE
  o Working with providers to normalize the conversation on HPV vaccination with parents and patients
  o Increase knowledge of the community so community members can become champions
  o HPV is related to many cancers—need more voices and advocates to serve as champions
  o Immunization involved in state cancer plan
  o Utilize immunization information systems
  o States working with local agencies to facilitate cooperation
  o Funding (either state or other)
  o Co-serving on state coalitions
  o Upper level management communication
  o Evidence-based interventions lined up
  o Collaborating with stakeholders to build information and resources
  o Willingness to share information and resources

• BARRIERS
  o Egos and silos
  o Competing priorities
  o Organizations working towards the problem are competing for the same individuals to serve
Tools not working for all programs and outcomes
- Poor immunization information systems
  - Consistency of use and making it work across the state
- Virginia: Poor implementation of statewide mandates/legislation

Describe a successful state-level example of good cooperation between immunization and cancer control programs that strengthens the state’s HPV efforts

- Iowa: Immunization group partnered with state cancer control and created a deliberate media plan and crossed resources
- Maryland: Distributed HPV encouragement letters to multiple providers and hosted an HPV Symposium event
- Guam: Implementation of HPV Initiative Strategic Plan
  - Nonprofits implementing school-based programs
  - Clinic based programs/improve systems/improve policy
  - Keep the conversation going
- Puerto Rico: Letters to decision makers
  - Included in Cancer Comprehensive Control Plan

What practical actions can be taken to enhance state-level collaborations between immunization and cancer control programs to strengthen HPV vaccination efforts?

- Active, vocal, influential champions
- Know and reach out to your partners
- Include messages on ALL cancers related to HPV and address all angles of HPV vaccination
- Combat poor/untrue messages

Parking Lot
- Video content/resources and stories featuring men
  - Iowa’s YouTube video
- Colorado: Competing tools/resources and programs