

VACCINE RECOMMENDATIONS: SCIENCE, SUCCESS, & MYTHS

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This seminar will consider vaccination as an effective public health infection control approach for protection of both the general population and health care professionals. Emphasis will focus on the most recent updated information pertaining to vaccines used in the prevention of adult infectious disease, especially those with increased occupational health care risks. Discussion concerning recent public health vaccine recommendations, such as those targeting shingles, human papilloma viruses (HPV), and meningococcal infection, will also be included. The rationale and classification of available vaccines and emerging technologies will be discussed in order to provide participants appropriate scientific and clinical evidence, which can be useful when considering the necessity for their own protection, as well as protection of the general public and individuals diagnosed with immune compromising conditions and diseases. In addition, important information will be presented concerning certain public misperceptions against vaccines which threaten their documented global success against many preventable infectious diseases.

Learning Objectives:

1. Comprehend the overall impact vaccinations have had in protecting the population against many infectious diseases.
2. Describe properties pertaining to the major vaccine categories.
3. Discuss the latest CDC vaccine recommendations for health care professionals for influenza, pneumococcal pneumonia, measles, mumps, rubella, varicella, hepatitis B, and pertussis.
4. Understand the rationale for other representative vaccination recommendations, including meningococcal and human papilloma virus infections.
5. Describe the dangers of public misperceptions against vaccines.