



## Improving Adult Immunization Rates While Reducing Health Care Disparities in Rhode Island

*More than 40 million older adults in the U.S. are at risk of developing influenza. Every year, close to one million people will be hospitalized for flu-related symptoms. People with other chronic health conditions are at higher risk for flu-related complications. Influenza and pneumonia combined are the 8th leading cause of death in the United States (2012).<sup>1,2</sup>*

The **New England QIN-QIO** is committed to working with healthcare providers and community partners to increase the number of Medicare beneficiaries immunized for vaccine preventable illnesses with a focus on influenza, pneumonia and herpes zoster.

The **Immunization Initiative** will support healthcare providers in improving adult vaccination rates with a focus on:

- Promoting effective immunization screening, vaccination, documentation and reporting
- Reducing immunization healthcare disparities
- Increasing electronic data reporting and care-coordination through use of CEHRT
- Improving immunization health literacy
- Engaging Eligible Providers, beneficiaries and families
- Promoting the development of an electronic Adult Immunization Information System (IIS)

1 National Council on Aging: [www.fighttheflu.org/data/print\\_materials/print\\_materials1352141785-pdf\\_file.pdf](http://www.fighttheflu.org/data/print_materials/print_materials1352141785-pdf_file.pdf)

2 National Foundation for infectious Disease: [www.adultvaccination.org/vpd/pneumococcal/pneumococcal-infographic](http://www.adultvaccination.org/vpd/pneumococcal/pneumococcal-infographic)

The initiative convenes healthcare providers from across the care continuum, including:

- Patients and family members
- Physician offices
- Nursing homes
- Home health agencies
- Pharmacists
- Immunizers
- Community partners seeking to improve immunization rates and reduce disparities

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