

Letters

Working with Pharmacists for Vaccination Access

I wanted to express my gratitude for the wealth of information on your “Vaccination Access Today” article. I am a pharmacist in Minnesota, who provides not only immunizations but also medication therapy management. I have been trying to convince local physicians that they are NOT getting paid for Medicare Part D vaccines—specifically Zostavax at \$250 per shot. I wouldn’t want to be giving too many of those away! Since some physicians were not upfront with the patient that it would NOT be covered, they have no legal recourse to bill the patient for the immunization. I have been trying to get referrals from local physicians (or standing orders) for immunizations, but most are not aware or comfortable with collaborating with a pharmacist. I now can refer physicians to your Web site and your article for proof that I’m telling them the truth!

I look forward to the next 2 installments of the articles.

Sincerely,

Julie Fike, PharmD, CDM-diabetes
*Clinical Care Pharmacist and Immunizing
Pharmacist
Snyder Drug and Custom Medication
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Julie—

I truly appreciate your comments.

Could I ask you to add to your thoughts here and allow us to use it as a means to educate our readers further. In the last article of this 3-part series, we are getting information from clinicians about what’s really happening with regard to best practices, opportunities, and barriers. This would serve to address the “we don’t know what we don’t know” section. [MPM](#)

—Richard G. Stefanacci, DO, MGH,
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