



### [Improving Immunization Rates in At-Risk Patients](#)

Saint Luke's Hospital of Kansas City  
Kansas City, Missouri

There are many interventions that can take place in the acute care setting to improve immunization rates. The most successful are system-based approaches that minimize barriers and provide for routine delivery of needed vaccines. Over the past six years, we have tried several approaches at our hospital resulting in a pharmacist-driven system to improve vaccination rates.

Through these approaches we have quadrupled the number of pneumococcal vaccines that our Pharmacy dispenses each year. In addition, the immunization-screening rate for our CAP patients met the Healthy People 2010 goal of 90% in the fourth quarter of 2002.

Our program of incorporating pneumococcal and influenza immunization assessment into our pharmacist's routine through the use of multiple interventions (**standing orders, critical pathways, pharmacist consults, pharmacy computer system etc.**) has resulted in a substantial improvement in vaccination rates for our at-risk patients.

*This initiative addresses Goal #6 for the ASHP 2015 Initiative.*

#### Quality Improvement Tools

1. [Pneumococcal Vaccination Rate by Quarter](#) (XLS)
2. [Immunization Policy](#) (PDF)
3. [Immunization Flow Chart](#) (PDF)
4. [Immunization Pocket Reference](#) (PDF)
5. [Teaching Stickers](#) (PDF)
6. [Holt Immunization Letter](#) (PDF)