

Improving The Immunization Rate of 2 Year-Olds

Lessons learned from a HRSA
Performance Review

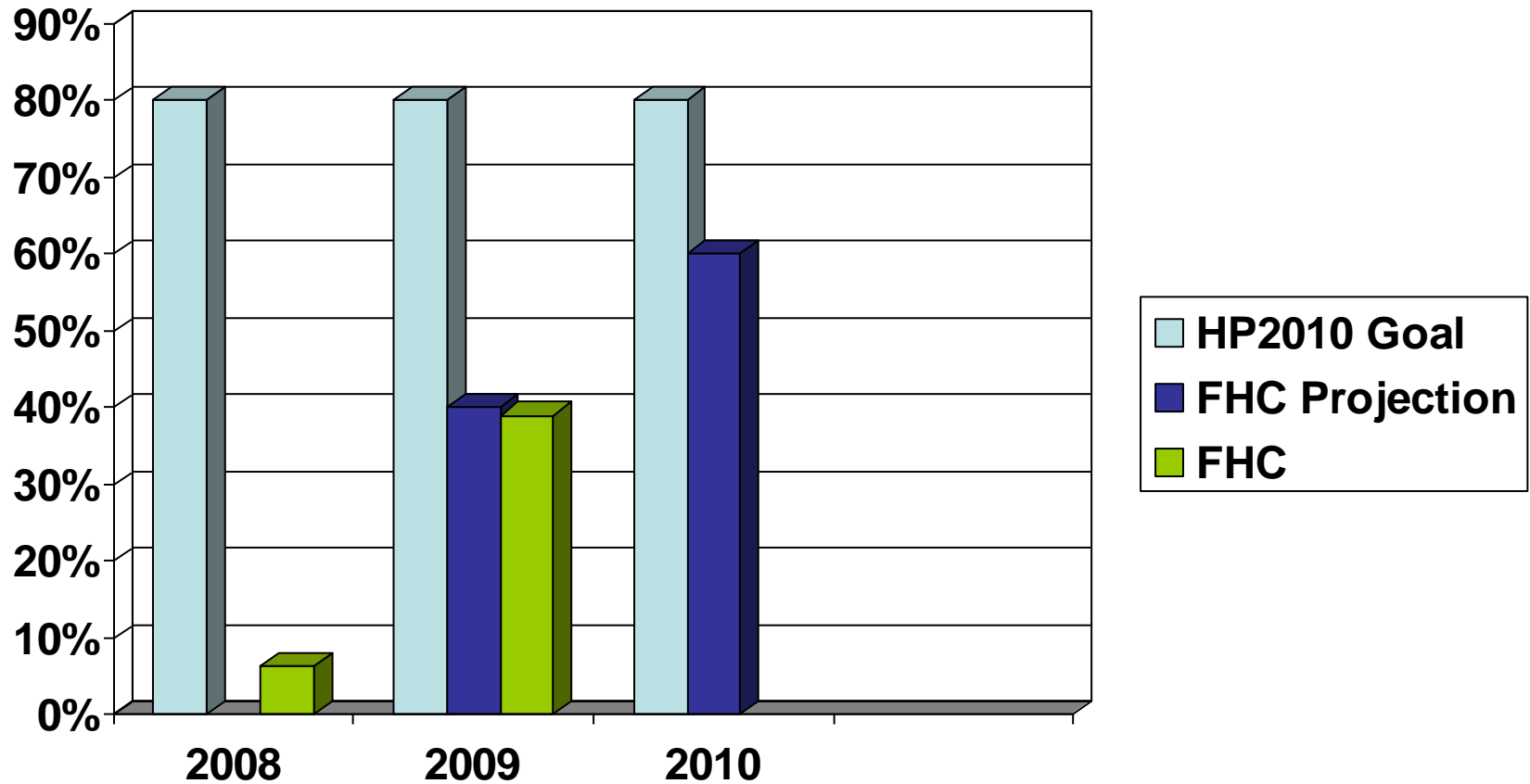
Background

- Introduction of Immunization of 2 year-olds to UDS
- Immunization rate of 2 year-olds had always been measured at FHC for QA purposes, however PC7 (Prevnar) had never been a requirement, therefore never measured.
- Only those immunizations required for school attendance were counted.

Contributing & Restricting Factors

- EMR immunization grid
- Use of State Immunization Registry
- Required for pre-school/school entrance
- Universally paid for by CHIP, MCD, private insurance, or WV State Immunization Program
- Erratic supply of immunizations
- Changing stockpiles of immunizations
- Changing recommendations
- Lack of patients having immunization records
- EMR not up to date and difficult to use
- Multiple combination of immunizations
- WCC performed after 2nd birthday

Percentage of Children with 2nd birthday with Appropriate Immunizations



Working with our EMR instead of against it

- Began using our EMR report capabilities to run a list of 15 month-olds every month
- We customized a reminder letter to mail out to parents when the child is 14 months old to bring in their child for an immunization update at 15 months and to please bring their child's immunization record with them to the appointment

Continued

- We began the reminder letters in June 2009
- Since that time, our immunization rate of 2 year-olds has improved from 6.3% compliance to 39% compliance (our goal was 40%)
- 54% responded to the letters and came in for a Well Child Check/Immunization Update
- We also call the caregiver and remind them about the appointment
- We track all WCC No Shows and send letters to caregivers reminding them to reschedule the appointment

5/24/2010

Brett Test
146 Some Where Lane
Spencer, WV 25276

Dear Brett Test:

Dear Parent:

We are in the process of updating our immunization records and want to ensure that your child is up to date.

Childhood immunization has proven greatly effective in reducing the chance of a child's being stricken with these communicable illnesses. State law requires that all children must be immunized prior to entering school.

It is Family Health Care's policy to adhere to the recommended immunization schedule as closely as possible and we ask your cooperation in protecting your child against these potentially fatal diseases.

Please bring your child in at 15 months of age for a review of his/her immunizations; just call for an appointment at 304-927-1495. Be sure to bring his/her immunization booklet to each visit.

Sincerely,

Emma White, RN

5/24/2010

Brett Test
146 Some Where Lane
Spencer, WV 25276

Dear Brett Test:

Dear Parent:

Our records indicate that your child recently missed his appointment for a well-child check up and/or immunization update. Childhood immunization has proven greatly effective in reducing the chance of a child being stricken with these communicable illnesses. State law requires that all children must be immunized prior to entering school.

It is Roane County Family Health Care's policy to adhere to the recommended immunization schedule as closely as possible and we ask your cooperation as a parent to aid us in protecting your child against these potentially fatal diseases. We also work closely with the department of Human Resources' Immunization Program to ensure proper immunization and medical follow up.

Please call the office as soon as possible to reschedule your appointment. If your child is receiving care elsewhere, please let us know so we may note this information in our computer.

Sincerely,

Emma White RN

Rate Comparison

- National Immunization Rate (UDS) 70%
- WV Immunization Rate (UDS) 56.8%
- RCFHC Immunization Rate 6.3% (2008)
- RCFHC Immunization Rate 39% (2009)
- RCFHC Immunization Rate Goal 2010
60%

More work to do

- We will continue to work with our EMR to customize Health Maintenance Rules to remind providers when immunizations are due
- Continue to work with WV Vaccine for Children Program and eventually have the capability to data enter immunizations in “real time”
- At this time, our EMR report function does not recognize the individual vaccines in a combo vaccine (example: Pentacel has DTaP, IPV, and Hib)
- We cannot generate a report of children needing vaccinated. We must scroll through each individual chart

