



Getting Creative to Break Down Barriers to Vaccinations

Why is it important to be vaccinated? People on dialysis have a weaker immune system and have a greater chance of getting infections. Vaccines are one way to help reduce the chances of getting sick or being hospitalized from flu, pneumonia, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), or COVID-19. There are many reasons why people do not want to get vaccinated. This guide may help you find alternative solutions to overcome those barriers. Here are some commonly reported barriers and a process to find solutions.

 Barrier	 Dive Deeper	 Brainstorm and Expand Solutions
Distrust of the medical system	- Who on the healthcare team do patients trust to talk about vaccines? Nephrologist, primary care physician (PCP), or the nurse? - Where do the patients get information about vaccines? Facebook or other social media platforms?	- Use reliable websites or resources like: CDC Pneumococcal Vaccination ESRD Networks ESRD NCC
The flu shot will give me the flu	- Ask “Tell me what happened last time you received the flu vaccine?” - Find out what motivates patients to stay healthy (e.g., family, work, or social activities, getting on the transplant list).	- Discuss the risks and benefits associated with vaccines. - Provide educational material about the flu vaccine: Flu Vaccine: Get the Facts CDC Vaccination Information Sheet (VIS) Get the Facts About the Flu and Pneumonia Vaccine
Vaccines aren’t safe	- Are there other patients who are willing to share their successful experiences with vaccinations? - Ask their nephrologist(s) to discuss the safety and side effects of vaccines.	- Use the following resources for additional information: What You Need to Know About the Flu Vaccine NKF CDC Vaccine Safety
There are so many vaccines	- Inform patients about the availability of the one-dose pneumonia vaccine. - Investigate to see if there are any vaccines that can be combined or given at the same time.	- Check the following resources: CDC Getting a Flu Vaccine and other Recommended Vaccines at the Same Time CDC Pneumococcal Vaccinations - Discuss concerns with the nephrologist, PCP, or pharmacist.



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Resources' web addresses:

CDC Pneumococcal Vaccination: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/pneumo/hcp/who-when-to-vaccinate.html>

ESRD Networks: <https://esrdncc.org/en/ESRD-network-map>

ESRD NCC: <https://esrdncc.org>

CDC Flu Vaccine: Get the Facts: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/pdf/professionals/vaccination/get-the-facts.pdf>

CDC Vaccination Information Sheet (VIS) on Flu Vaccine: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/flu.pdf>

ESRD NCC Get the Facts About the Flu and Pneumonia Vaccine: <https://esrdncc.org/contentassets/016157cc58ce402bb0d589d90c8ce459/esrdncc-vaccinationag2022-final.pdf>

ESRD NCC What You Need to Know About the Flu Vaccine: <https://esrdncc.org/contentassets/7e0bea19238a458d84815ff2a2c2344e/what-you-need-to-know-about-the-flu-vaccine-508.pdf>

NKF: <https://www.kidney.org/atoz/content/vaccinations>

CDC Vaccine Safety: <https://www.cdc.gov/patientsafety/features/vaccine-safety.html>

CDC Getting a Flu Vaccine and other Recommended Vaccines at the Same Time:
<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/coadministration.htm#:~:text=Flu%2C%20COVID%2D19%2C%20and,given%20at%20the%20same%20visit>

CDC Pneumococcal Vaccinations: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/pneumo/hcp/who-when-to-vaccinate.html>