



PROTECT YOUR PATIENTS AGAINST INFLUENZA



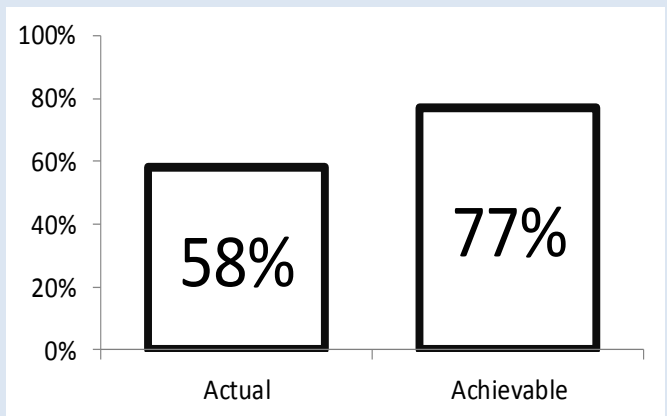
Give the flu shot as soon as the vaccine is available and the patient is in the office

Influenza (flu) vaccination rates among Wisconsin children have declined in recent years, even though rates for other childhood vaccinations have remained constant.¹ Missed opportunities (MO) can occur when patients present for other vaccines, but do not receive the flu shot.

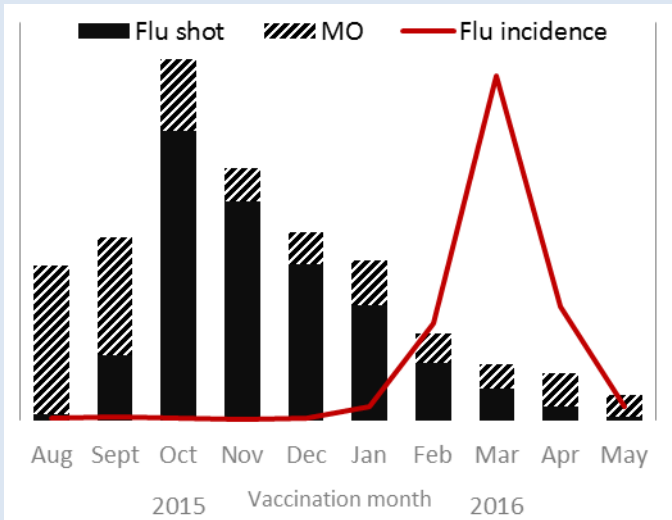
What is the impact of missed opportunities (MO) in Wisconsin?

- ▶ Of children aged 6–24 months who received vaccines during the 2015-16 flu season, 44% had at least one MO to receive the flu shot.
- ▶ If all MO were eliminated, 77% (instead of 58%) of children in this age range would have been vaccinated for flu.
- ▶ MO were common before and during February–April 2016, months of peak flu occurrence in Wisconsin.
- ▶ Black children and children aged 6–18 months were more likely to have a MO.
- ▶ Children who received more shots during the visit were more likely to have a MO.

If all missed opportunities (MO) were eliminated, 77% instead of 58% of children aged 6-24 months would have been vaccinated for flu during the 2015-16 flu season

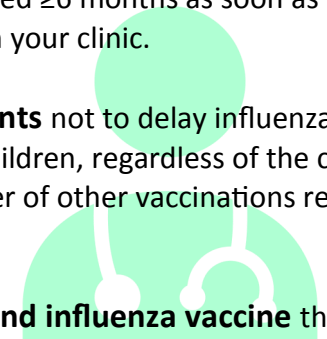


Missed opportunities (MO) for the flu shot were common before and during peak flu incidence in Wisconsin during the 2015-16 flu season



What can health care providers do?

- ▶ **Strongly recommend** influenza vaccine for all patients aged ≥ 6 months as soon as vaccine is available in your clinic.
- ▶ **Urge parents** not to delay influenza vaccination for their children, regardless of the child's age and number of other vaccinations received at the visit.
- ▶ **Recommend influenza vaccine** through the winter and spring months because the burden and timing of influenza occurrence varies every season.



References

¹<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/data.htm>
 Data source: Wisconsin Immunization Registry
 Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health

